Record Group 104. Entry 6.

Letters Received by the Director and the Superintendent of the Mint, 1866-1900.

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Box 3, Book 1 for 1866-1900

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RG 104 RECORDS OF THE BUREAU OF THE MINT

Records of the U.S. Mint at Philadelphia
Correspondence

LETTERS SENT BY THE DIRECTOR AND THE SUPERINDENTENT OF THE MINT, 1866-1900

Nov. 1, 1870 - Sept. 29, 1873

Box 3 NC-152 Entry 6

U.S. Mint

LETTERS.

No. 7.

From Feb. 2nd 1872

To Nov. 23rd 1872

Feby 2nd 2

Sir:

Yours of the 1st instant, asking about a lot of coin sent for redemption, has been received and in reply I have to say that the coin has been received, but not yet counted.

Yours Respectfully
James Polock
Director
per Boyd

Treasurer
Third Avenue R.R. Co
New York

Feby 3rd 2

Sir:

Yours of the 1st Instant, inquiring about a lot of Small coin sent for redemption, is received, and in reply have to state that the coin has been received and counted, and the certificate forwarded to the Treasury Department

Yours Respectfully
James Pollock
Director
per Vogdes

James McGamble Esq
Camden, Oneida Co
N. Y.

Feby. 3rd 2

Dear Sir

In pursuance of the Act of Congress, the Annual Assay of the Gold and Silver Coinage of the United States for the past year, will be held at the Mint in this City on the second Monday, the 12th, of February, instant.

Under the terms of the law the Judge of the District Court of the U. S. Eastern District of Penna. is "Ex-Officio" one of the Assay Commissioners; and I shall be pleased to see you at the Mint at 10 o'clock A.M. on the 12th instant, to enter upon the performance of your designated official duties.

Very Respectfully Yours

Jas. Pollock

Director

Hon. John Cadwalader
Judge U. S. District Court
Philadelphia

Feb. 3d 2

Dear Sir

In pursuance of the Act of Congress, the Annual Assay of the Gold and Silver Coinage of the United States for the past year, will be held at the Mint in this City on the second Monday the 12th, of February instant.

Under the terms of the law, the U. S. District Attorney for the Eastern District of Penna., is "Et-officio" one of the Assay Commissioners; and I shall be pleased to see you at the Mint at 10 o'clock A. M. on the 12th instant, to enter upon the performance of your designated official duties.

Very Respectfully Yours

J. A. Bloch
Director

Hon Aubrey H. Smith
U. S. District Attorney
Philadelphia

Febry. 3d 2

Dear Sir

In pursuance of the Act of Congress, the Annual Assay of the Gold and Silver Coinage of the United States for the past year, will be held at the Mint in this City, on the second Monday, the 12th. of February, instant.

Under the terms of the law the Collector of the Port is "Ex-Officio" one of the Assay Commissioners; and I shall be pleased, to see you at the Mint, at 10 o'clock A.M., on the 12th instant, to enter upon the performance of your designated official duties.

Very Respectfully Yours

Jas. Pollock
Director

Hon. John W. Forney
Collector of the Port
Philadelphia

Febry. 5th 2

Sir

There has, for some time past, been so large an increase in the deposits of Silver Bullion at the Mint, that our Silver Bullion Fund, now amounting to only $286.874.64, is not equal to its intended purposes, and does not permit the payment of depositors with a promptness that they have a right to expect, and the convenience and interests of the public demand.

We need a silver Bullion Fund of at least Five hundred thousand dollars ($500.000) and I respectfully request that there may be an addition to our present fund of not less than Two hundred thousand dollars ($200.000) by a transfer of the

designated amount from the Assay Office at New York, or from the Treasury of the United States, as you may direct.

I respectfully ask your early attention to this request.

Very Respectfully Yours

Jas. Pollock

Director

Hon Geo. S. Boutwell
Secretary of the Treasury
Washington D.C.

Feby 5th 2

Gents

Your of the 2nd Instant, inquiring after a lot of Small coin sent for redemption, is received, and in reply I have to say that the coin has been received and counted, and the certificate forwarded to the Treasury Department.

Your Respectfully
James Pollock
Director
per Vogt

Haines & Co
Pittsburgh
Pa

Feby 5th 2

Gents

Yours of the 3rd Instant, inquiring after a lot of Small coin sent for redemption, is received, and in reply I have to say that the coin has been received and counted and the certificate forwarded to the Treasury Department

Yours Respectfully
James Pollock
Director
per Boyd

Weiser, Son Hall
York
Pa

Feb 5. 2

Sir

The Gold Bars mentioned in your letter of the 3rd inst. are duly received, and the net proceeds - $3,035.- in coin - was forwarded to you by Express on the 1st inst.

Your Respectfully
Jas Pollock
Director

T. H. Perkins, Esq.
Boston, Mass.

Feby. 6th 2

Sir

I had occasion yesterday to apply to you for an increase of the Silver Bullion Fund of the Mint (under the Act of May 23d 1850) to meet the accumulating offers of depositors or sellers.

Referring to that letter I desire to add further, that silver bars, unrefined, to the amount of over half a million of dollars, are now on the way here, and we are not able to make payment without considerable delay.

I would say also that if a part of the Fund, say $100.000, could be drawn from the Assay office at New York, in the shape of fine silver bars; and about.

twice that amount from the Mints at San Francisco and Carson City, in fine silver bars or new coin, or both; it would probably be no inconvenience to them, and would afford a sufficient stock here.

I will only add, that the surprising production of silver from the northern shores of Lake Superior, in addition to what comes from the far west, will soon compel the inquiry whether we cannot make more use of it at home than we are now doing.

Very Respectfully Yours

James Pollock

Director

Hon. Geo. S. Boutwell
Secretary of the Treasury
Washington D.C.

Febj. 6th 2

Sir

I have duly received your letter of the 2d instant in reply to mine of the 27th ultimo, in reference to the expenses of the manufacture, redemption and re-issue of base coinage.

The essential points of my letter of January 27th, seem to have been overlooked, or, in some degree mis-apprehended. I repeat that the whole of our present force, men and women, is necessary to the successful working of the institution; and that (aside from the cost of materials, nickel &c) the receiving, counting, cleaning, storing and re-issuing of the redeemed base coinage, is as expensive as it original manufacture, and occupies the time

and requires the services of nearly as large a working force. The large increase of our silver deposits and coinage, the coinage, redemption, cleaning, reissuing &c of base coins, make our present force necessary, and there is no reason for reducing it except the want of means.

This being the case, why should not the expenses of manipulating the redeemed base coinage, as above stated, be paid out of the monies received for the re-issued base coins, which is identical in character and availability with the monies received from base coins, and, under the law, as much a part of the profits of the cent coinage, as the proceeds of the new base coinage?

The amount required, in addition to the base coinage fund, would not be large, probably would not exceed four or five thousand dollars per month, according to circumstances.

Again referring to my letter of the 27th ult, the great importance of the subject compels me to respectfully ask a re-con-

=sideration of the questions involved, believing that the proposition I have submitted is fair and just, and entirely in harmony with the public interests, and, under the law, the most reason=able and practicable that presents itself under the circum=stances; and I am persuaded, cannot but commend itself to your favorable consideration.

Yours Very Respectfully

Jas. Pollock
Director

Hon. Geo. S. Boutwell
Secretary of the Treasury
Washington D.C.

Febry 7th 2

Sir

In pursuance of directions from the Secretary of the Treasury, dated January 19th 1872, based upon a requisition from the Secretary of the Navy dated January 18th 1872, I send you today, by the Adams Express, as per the enclosed duplicate receipt, a small box containing twenty silver discs, 999½ thousandths fine.

I also, by the same directions, enclose duplicate receipted bills for the same, amounting to the sum of $167.47, standard silver, payable in silver coin, to be sent to me.

Very Respectfully Yours

J. C. Pollock

Director

To

Commodore A. Ludlow Case

Chief of the Bureau of Ordnance

Washington D.C.

Feby. 7th 2

Commodore A. Ludlow Case.
Chief of the Bureau of Ordnance
Navy Department, Washington D.C.

To the U. S. Mint Dr.

For twenty discs of fine silver = 119.62 ozs. @ 999/1000 fine, @ $1.40 per oz (standard silver)	$167.47

Received Payment (in silver coin)
Jas. Pollock
Director

Note. The above discs were ordered by the Secretary of the Treasury (J.S.K.) January 19th 1872, in pursuance of a requisition from the Secretary of the Navy, dated January 18th 1872.

Feby. 10th 2

Sir

I have to request that you will please send me half a dozen copies of "Ex. Doc. No. 307, House of Represen=tatives, 41st Congress, 2nd Session", con=taining the letter of the Secretary of the Treasury of June 25th 1870, and accompanying correspondence with regard to the proposed new Mint law.

Very Respectfully Yours

Director

Hon Geo. S. Boutwell
Secretary of the Treasury
Washington D.C.

Febry. 12th 2

Sir

I have the honor to report that no change was made, during the calendar year 1871, "in any of the officers that are responsible for the coinage", in the Mint of the United States, or the Branch Mints at San Francisco, California, and Carson City, Nevada.

Very Respectfully

Jas Pollock
Director

Hon John Cadwalader
Chairman Assay Commission

Feby 12th 2

Gents

Yours of the 9th Instant, inquiring about a lot of Small coin sent for redemption, is received and in reply I have to say that the coin has ban received and counted, and the certificate forwarded to the Treasury Department.

Respectfull, Yours
James Pollock
Director
per Vogel

Messrs Briggs & Palmer
Clyde
N. Y.

Feby 13 2

Messrs Lyman, Brothers & Co

Gentlemen,

We have two modes, and rates, of paying for silver bullion brought to the Mint. If the depositor makes whole silver dollars, we return the equal weight, against standard silver, at the rate of 116 4/11 cents per ounce troy; deducting the half of one per cent. for coinage. These whole dollars are worth in the market about three per cent. more than gold coin.

If the depositor makes smaller silver coin, we pay at the rate of 122½ cents per ounce troy of silver 900 fine, making no deduction for coinage.

We are not allowed to pay gold for silver, or vice versa.

Fine silver, I should add, is valued in due proportion; one-ninth more than silver 900 fine.

Yours truly

Jas. Pollock

Febry. 15th 2

Sir

Your letter of the 10th instant, duly received.

As the method of refining gold and silver by means of Chlorine is a patented process, and was used here in trial by expres permission from the Agent of the Patentee, I cannot furnish the "detailed statement" of the method without a viola=tion of good faith. In my Annual Re=port for the year ending June 30th 1871, I refer=red to this method, and gave all the inform=ation to the public that I could as with propriety. I send you by mail a copy of the report.

E. S. Renwick Esq, of 19 Park Place New York, is the attorney of F. Bowyer Miller Esq (Assayer of the Sidney Mint) the Patentee, and will no doubt be pleased to communicate with you on the subject.

Very Respectfully

Jas. Pollock

Director

Hon S.B. Chaffee

Washington D.C.

Feby. 15th 2

Dear Sir

The coin which you wish to sell, is a VI Kreutzer of Leopold, Emperor of Germany, 1676. We have his larger coins, but not this

Its numismatic value is small, and we think you had better not part with it, for the petty price you would get.

Yours Respectfully

Jas. Pollock
Director

Jno. W. Trowbridge Esq
Racine
Wisconsin

P.S. Prof. Henry's letter is herewith returned to you.

Feby 19th 2

Sir:

Your letter of the 9th Instant, in reference to the subject of abrasion of coins, was duly received.

In my Annual Report for the year ending June 30th 1862, a statement on this subject was made in general terms, with a view to offset some extravagant estimates made in England. To that Report you are respectfully referred.

I will now give a more particular account of weighings made here in August 1860, which was before the War, when metallic money was current, and of course a better time than the present to arive at a satisfactory view of the average condition of coin in the Public Treasury or elsewhere. The trials were on large quantities, worn and unworn, as we usually find them, and without reference to dates, or place of coinage.

The deficit of weight is stated in percentage, as being the best adapted to your purpose.

Double Eagles, were found to be light, one-sixteenth of one per cent.

Eagles, light one-fifth of do.

Half-Eagles, light one-third of do.

Quarter-Eagles, do a little over one-third of do.

Gold Dollars, 44/100, or nearly one-half of do.

The Silver half dollars were so nearly unworn, that the result did not give a fair idea.

Quarter-Dollars were light 4/10 of one per cent.

But another lot, more worn, whose average age was 4.3 years, showed light 2/3 of one per cent.

I believe the Department is aware that the British Government makes good the loss by abrasion of silver coin, by giving out new pieces in exchange for worn pieces.

The seignorage enables them to do that, probably without loss. The small gain on our present silver coinage would not, in my opinion, justify such an exchange, although in itself both just and desirable, and

and which could be secured by proper legislation

Yours very Respectfully

J. W. Pollock
Director

Hon P. F. Hartley
Asst Secy of Treasury
Washington
D.C.

Feb. 20. 2

Sir,

Your letter of the 19th inst. enclosing one dollar for the purchase of certain small coins of former years, has been duly received.

In reply I have to state that the only coins the Mint keeps for sale, are full proof-setts of the current year. Your order, therefore, cannot be filled here, and the money is herewith returned.

Yours Respectfully

J. A. Pollock
Director

Mr. Geo. F. Norton
22d St. & 11th Ave.
New York

Feb 21. 2

Sir,

Your letter of the 15th inst. has been duly received.

The legal composition of the 5 ¢ nickels is 25 per cent nickel and 75 per cent copper.

We use whatever heat is necessary to melt it, but have never had occasion to measure the degrees.

We never cast or roll metal into squares or sheets; I am therefore unable to answer your remaining questions.

Yours Respectfully

Jas. Pollock

Director

Dr. Christian Rauh,
St. Louis, Mo.

Feb 21. 2

Sir,

The parties who furnished the outfit for the Army Office at Boise City, Idaho, and whose receipted bills are in possession of the Treasury Department, are very anxious to get their money, and have become so impatient and importunate, that I am compelled by the pressure to again call your attention to the matter, in the hope that an early settlement may be practicable.

So many months have elapsed since the balance in the hands of the disbursing agent at Boise City was ordered to be returned to the Treasury, that I suppose there need be no occasion for much further delay in awarding payment to those

claimants. For their information as well as for my own relief, please let me hear from you in reply at your very earliest convenience.

Very Respectfully Yours

Director

Hon. Secretary Boutwell

Secretary of the Treasury

Feby 23 2

Sir

Yours of the 22nd Inst, in relation to the exchange of a "Jefferson Cent" 1795 "for any Pattern piece Struck by the Mint, has been rec", and in reply I have to say that in consideration of the fact of our having a very good Jefferson Cent in the Mint Cabinet, and not having any pattern piece to dispose of, we do not feel inclined to make the exchange you propose

Yours Respectfully

J. R. Snowden
Director

Alfred E. Robinson Esq
Hartford
Conn

Feb 23. 2

Sir,

Enclosed I forward a certified copy of the Minutes of the proceedings of the Assay Commissioners at their annual meeting on the 12th and 13th days of February instant.

Very Respectfully Yours

J. A. Pollock
Director

Hon. Geo. S. Boutwell
Secretary of the Treasury

Feby 23rd 2

Dear Sir:

Yours of the 19th Instant, came duly to hand, and in reply would say, that such facilities as we may possess, will be most cheerfully extended to you in the proposed weighings.

As this subject directly effects the Operations of the Chief Coiner's Department, I shall refer you on your arrival to Mr Snowden for consultation and assistance as to the best means by which you may arrive at satisfactory results

I am very truly
Yours

Jas. Pollock
Director

Rev T. A. P. Barnard D.D.
Pres't Columbia College
New York

Feby. 26th 2

Sir

The enclosed communication I received from General Robert Patterson of this City. It speaks for itself. He desires the aid of the Medal department in preparing the proper dies and striking the medals from bronze furnished by the Gov=ernment, for the purposes indica=ted in his letter. This labor to be done gratuitously, or at the lowest possibl t

I informed the General that I could not undertake to prepare the dies and strike the medals as desired without the consent of the proper authority and therefore refer the subject to you. The object in preparing

the dies and distributing the medals is meretorious and patri=-otic; and, if you so direct, we will do it without cost, or at such rate or price as you may suggest.

The amount of labor required will not be large.

I will communicate your reply to the General.

Very Respectfully Yours

Jas. Pollock
Director

Hon Geo. S. Boutwell
Secretary of the Treasury
Washington D.C.

Febry 27th 2

Your letter of the 24th instant in relation to the sale of gold coin in the hands of the U. S. Assistant Treasurer at New York, has been duly received.

I would observe, that although a new case, there is no reason why such a sale as is indicated should not be made, and under all the circumstances it would probably be a wise and true policy.

As it regards the proper premium for payment, made in currency, there but one rule and that is the market rate of [illegible] at there

are two different market prices, according as the pieces are <u>whole dollars</u> or fractions of a dollar; making a difference in favor of the whole dollar of about seven and one half per cent. The whole dollar has an interior or Mint value, which is determined by its relation to the silver contained in the half dollar, which makes it 107 $\frac{27}{64}$ cents; for which reason single pieces are paid out at the Mint at the even price of 108 cents. In the sale of whole dollars this per centage ($7\frac{27}{64}$) must be added to the market premium on half dollars or other fractions of the dollar.

Very Respectfully Yours

Jas. Pollock
Director

Hon. Geo. S. Boutwell
Secretary of the Treasury
Washington D. C.

Feb. 27th 72

Dear Sir

I send you to-day the result of the conference with friends in this Institution on the subject of the memorial window to David Rittenhouse, first Director of the U.S. Mint &c, to be placed in the new University of Peninsylvania.

Mr R- was a skilled mechanic, a genius in clock and watch making, a philosopher and astronomer, in=vented and made the orrery, and was first Director of the U.S. Mint.

The design now presented and merely suggestive, contains, first the likeness or portrait of the man himself; Second, the clock, emblematic of his mechanical skill &c, Third, the orrery emblematic of the astronomer and

mechanic, and, Fourthly, the old screw coining press, a fac-similie of the one used by him when Director of the Mint, and on its front ledge to be placed some of the larger silver coin of that period (obverse and reverse).

The sketch and descrip=
=tions are imperfect, but as sugges=
=tions something better may be produced from them.

Yours Very Truly

Jas. Pollock

Chas. J. Stille L.L.D.

Feb. 28th 2

Dear Sir

Your letter of the 20th inst, has been duly received.

The dies of the "Robinson Bronze Medal" are in this institution, but the alteration of the obverse die, changing "Washington College" to the "Washington and Lee University", as requested, cannot be made for reasons well understood by Engravers. A new obverse die will be necessary; the reverse (the wreath) will need no alteration. As we now confine our operations principally to striking medals; not making dies unless is our Government account, - the new obverse

die can be made by any artist in this City or New York that you may select.

The new obverse die must be of the same diameter as the reverse. If required we will forward the dies to you or to your order.

Yours Respectfully

J. A. Pollock
Director

Wm Dold Esq.
Treas. Wash. & Lee University
Lexington, Virginia.

Feb. 29th 2

Dear Sir

Enclosed I forward a copy of a letter received this morning from the Secretary of the Treasury, authorizing the Mint to prepare dies and strike medals in honor of the members of the "Washington Greys" who laid down their lives in defence of the Union; as proposed in your letter to me of the 22d inst; charging only the actual cost of material and labor required.

If you are satisfied with the terms please favor me with whatever designs and suggestions you may have further to propose, and I will have the work promptly taken in hand, and completed as soon as it can reasonably be done

Yours Very Respectfully,

J. C. Pollock

Director

Genl. Robert Patterson
1308 Locust Street
Philadelphia

Feby 29th 2

Sir

Your letter of the 23d inst, in relation to a process for saving crucibles, has been received.

Our manner of using crucibles here secures all the advantages claimed for your process. The purchase of the right to use your invention would be of no advantage to the Government.

Your proposition to give me a large percentage (33/100 per cent) in the event of a sale, through my influence, to the Government, after trial, is peremptorily rejected. It should not have been made. Such offers are, in every point of view indefensible

Yours Respectfully

Jas Powell
Director

Jas. C. Atwood Esq
St James Hotel
Pittsburgh Pa

Feby. 29th 72

Sir

Enclosed I forward Statement of the amount and kind of each denomination of base coins redeemed at the Mint during the month of February 1872, under the Act of March 3d 1871; together with the amount previously redeemed, and the total amount redeemed.

Yours Very Respectfully

A. E. Pollock

Director

Hon. Geo. S. Boutwell
Secretary of the Treasury
Washington D.C.

July 29th 2

Sir

Your letter (J.J.K.) of the 26th inst, in relation to the alledged de=ficit in the base coins redeemed, and requesting "that measures be taken to have those in the bins re=counted and bagged, and report any deficiency that may exist, and the cause of the deficiency;" has been duly received.

I will, as promptly as possible, cause measures to be taken to re=count these coins, and ascertain the deficiency if any, and the cause of it.

The redemption, of the base coins, their counting and re=counting, cleaning, weighing &c, employs at present every

available man and woman;
but we hope soon to be able to
re-count and bag the coins in
the bins; and when the defi-
-ciency (if any) is ascertained
I will report the causes of it
so far as they can be determined.

Yours Very Respectfully

[signature]
Director

Hon. Geo. S. Boutwell
Secretary of the Treasury
Washington D.C.

March 1st 2

Sir

At the close of business on the 2[9]th ultimo, I made the usual monthly count and examination of the monies in the hands of the Treasurer of the Mint, with the following result, viz:

Gold	$69.672.34
Silver	34.959.13
Ordinary Account	71.044.85
Cent Coinage a/c.	279.367.03
San Francisco Br. Mint	7.481.32
Denver " "	328.07
Charlotte " "	200.00
Carson City " "	1.041.05
Base Coins per cent a	210 377.72
Total	$ 674.471.51 =

which corresponds with his Books.

Dalles a/c examination

into the general condition, and operations of the Mint; and the institution, was found to be in good working order, and its business conducted in a careful and satisfactory manner.

Very Respectfully Yours

Director

Hon. Geo. S. Boutwell
Secretary of the Treasury
Washington D.C.

March 1st 2

Gents

Yours of the 28th of Feby, inquiring about a lot of small coin sent for redemption, has been received, and in reply I have to state that the coin was counted on the 26th of February and the certificate forwarded to the Treasury Dept.

Your Respectfully
James Pollock
Director
per Vogel

Messrs Collett & Carr
Akron
Ohio

185 Howard St

March 1st 2

Sir

Enclosed I forward my official statement of deposits and coinage at the Mint of the United States, Philadelphia, during the month of February 1872.

Very Respectfully Yours

Jas Pollock

Director

Hon Geo. S. Boutwell
Secretary of the Treasury
Washington D.C.

March 1st 2

Sir

Your letter of the 28th ultimo was received.

The keg of base coins for redemption, to which you refer, was reported by you to contain $125.00. On its arrival it was opened and the bags counted with unusual care, as is now done with all the coin sent by you. It was discovered that your report was not correct. Instead of three bags of two cent coin of $20 each in all $60, there were but two bags of $20 each, making a difference of $20. On counting the coin the true amount was $1259.98. To this sum add the bag of $20 reported, but not sent,

and you have the sum of $1280.00.

Amount counted and correct	$1259.98
Bag not sent	20.02
	$1280.00

You should be more careful in reporting the number of bags and amount of coin.

Yours Respectfully

J. A. Pollock
Director

Mr. S. F. Mossman
No. 18 Wythe avenue
Brooklyn E. D.

March 1st 21

Sir

Your letter, notifying us of the shipment, by mail, of base coins to the amount of One hundred Dollars, for redemption, and also enclosing one dollar to pay any extra expense that might be incurred in the delivery of the coin to the Mint, has been received.

As the coin has been delivered without any expense to us, I herewith return the dollar to you.

Your Respectfully

Jas Pollock
Director

A. B. Stone Esq. P.M.
San Francisco
Cal

March 2nd 2

Sir

Your of the 28th of Feby, stating that you had sent $10.00 in base coins for redemption, has been received, and in reply I have to say that the coin cannot be received as the amount is too small.

Enclosed find Circular on the subject, the terms of which must be strictly complied with.

Yours Respectfully

Jas [illegible]
Director

W. F. Wernse Esq.
Cashr West St Louis Savings Bk
St Louis
Mo

Mar. 2 2

Gentlemen

Your letter of 1st inst, asking the Mint to furnish you with one hundred uncirculated two cent coins; has been recd.

I cannot furnish them, as there is no authority given by law for disposing of them in this way.

Yours Respt.

Jas Pollock

Director

per J. C. P.

Mess.

C. R. Heinmann & Bro

S. E. Cor. 6th & Penn St.

Reading, Pa

March 2nd 2

Dear Sir

I duly received your letter of the 24th ult informing me that the original dies of the "Treble Medal" struck in 1805, were in use by a clerk in the Navy Department as paper weights. They have since been transferred to the custody of the Mint, by order of the Secretary of the Treasury, and are now in the hands of the Engraver of the Mint with a view to their restoration to good working order, a result which I hope may be fully accomplished

Yours Very Respectfully

Jas. Pollock

Director

Capt Geo Henry Preble
U. S. Navy
Washington
D. C.

Mar. 2d 2

Sir

In reply to your inquiry of the 26th ultimo, I have to report that the following weights are defi=cient in the series of the smaller weights for the larger standard balance referred to in the resolu=tion of the Assay Commissioners.

Denomination of weights	Weights wanting one each of the following.
Hundreds of ounces	none
Tens of ounces	60. 70. 80. 90.
Units of ounces	7. 8. 9.
Tenths of ounces	.60 .70 .80 .90
Hundredths of ounces	.06 .07 .08 .09
Thousandths of ounces	.006 .007 .008 .009
Tenthousandths of ounces	.0006 .0007 .0008 .0009

It would be very de=sirable, if practicable, to have the new weights conform in shape

to the lower ones of the same de=
=nomination, made by our own
weight maker, and adjusted to
to insure greater facility and
accuracy in reading.

Very Respectfully Yours

Jas. Reeves
Director

Hon. Geo. S. Boutwell
Secretary of the Treasury
Washington D.C.

March 2d 2

Sir

Referring to your letter (J. H. S.) of the 28th ultimo, I have to report that the dies of the Preble Medal executed in 1805, recently in use in the Navy Department as paper weights, and forwarded to their proper custodian, the Mint, by Express, by your direction, have been duly received; and are now in the hands of the Engraver of the Mint, with a view to their restoration to good working order, which I hope may be readily accomplished.

Very Respectfully Yours

A. Patterson
Director

Hon. Geo. S. Boutwell
Secretary of the Treasury
Washington D.C.

March 4th 21

Dear Sir

Will you be pleased, in my name, to invite the members of the Commission, to visit the Mint of the United States in this City, either in a body or as individuals, and at such time as may be most convenient and pleasant for them?

The best hours for visiting are between 9. A. M. and 12 M. of the Secular days.

It will give me pleasure to welcome them to this Institution.

Very Respectfully Yours

Jas. Pollock
Director

To the
Chairman of the
National Centennial Commission

M. B. C.

Dear Sir,

In compliance with your request of the 5th inst. I sent you to-day, 12 copies of my last annual report, and 1 Mint Laws.

Yours Truly

[illegible]

Director

Hon John Jay [illegible]
Dep. Comp. of the Currency
Washington
D.C.

March 6th 2

Gentlemen

Your letter of the 26th ult, offering for sale 230 No 70 crucibles, has been received.

I have inquired as to the supply of crucibles now on hand, and find that we have sufficient for a number of years at the present rate of working; consequently we do not want to add to our stock.

Yours Respectfully

Jas. Pollock

Director

Messrs. Taylor, Strow & Co.
1334 Callowhill Street
Philadelphia

March 7th 2

Dear Sir

Your letter of the 4th inst, has been duly received.

The plan mentioned by you for changing the inscription of the obverse die resembles somewhat the process of making a new die, but in no way lessening the cost.

We can have made for you three medals in gold, using for one face the reverse die of the Robinson medal, and the other a blank, so that the inscription may be afterwards engraved upon it by hand. We have no die with a simple wreath the size of the Robinson medal; if we had, we could use it. We have no blank die, but can make one for you at

cost of about ten dollars ($10).

If this will answer our purpose, please inform me; and also whether the gold you wish used shall be <u>standard</u> (the same as our gold coin) or <u>pure</u>; the latter costs about ten per cent more than the former.

Yours Respectfully
Jas. Pollock
Director
per J.C.P.

Wm. Dold Esq.
Treas. Washn. & Lee Univ.
Lexington Va

March 8th 2

Sir

Yours of the 5th Instant, requesting us to hold, subject to your order, ten dollars in base coin sent by you for redemption, has been received and in reply I have to say that the coin arrived some days ago, and as the Treasurer could not receive it, it was returned to your address by Adams Express Agent

Yours Respectfully

Jas Pollock

Director

W F. Wernse Esq
Cashr. West St. Louis Savgs Bank
St Louis
Mo

Mar. 9th 2

Sir

Your letter has been duly received.

The quarter dollar was issued every year from 1796 up to the present time, ex=cept the years, 1797-'98-'99-1800-'01-'02, '03-'07-'08-'09-'10-'11-'12-'13-'14-'26-'29 and '30.

The dime was issued from 1796 up to the present time except the years 1799, 1806, 1808-'12-'13-'15-'16-'17-'18-'19 and '26

The half dime was issued every year from 1794 up to the present time, ex=cept the years 1798-'99-1804, and from 1806 to 1828 inclusive.

The three cent piece was issued every year from 1851 up to the present time.

The words 'dime' and "half=dime", were first used on the issues of the year 1837.

Yours Respy.

Jas. Pollock

Director

T. E. Francisco Esq
248 Bleecker St
New York

March 11th 2

Gentlemen

There is so much uncertainty in the fineness of native gold, and uncertainty as to the percentage of loss in reducing the grains or dust by melting, that the only way to settle the question you propose, is to send on a quantity, and make a trial. Gold in bar from North Carolina, will generally average 94 cents in coin; from South Carolina, 93 cents in coin.

From these data you can form some idea as to the prospect of profit. The loss in melting clean dust or amalgam, and turning it into bars would ordinarily be from 1 to 2

to five per cent.

The enclosed circular shows the terms upon which gold bullion is received at the Mint for coinage &c.

Yours Respectfully

Jas. Pollock

Director

Messrs. Bomar & Clark

New Prospect

So. Carolina

Mch. 11th 2

A. H. Plummer Esq
228 Clermont ave.
Brooklyn N.Y.

Dr Sir

Your letter of 9th inst, duly recd.

Your letter of 6th inst, with enclosures as stated, was also received, and the medals ordered were forwarded to your address on Saturday, 9th inst, by Express.

Yours Respfy.
Jas. Pollock
Director
per J.C.P.

March 12th 2

Sir

I have this morning received your order of the 11th instant, with transfer check enclosed for,

5¢ nickels $1000

1¢ do 500 = $1500 =

The five cent nickels will be forwarded to you by Express today; and the one cent coins in a day or two, not having the necessary amount on hand ready for immediate delivery.

Very Respectfully Yours

Jas. Pollock

Director

Hon. F. E. Spinner

Treasurer of the U. S.

Washington D.C.

Mar. 15th 2

Gentlemen

Your letter of the 11th inst, has been received this morning.

The Mint executes coinage for depositors of bullion, upon the terms of the two enclosed circulars, but does not keep coin for sale, (except "proof sets" of the current year.

If you choose to purchase silver bullion outside, and send it to the Mint, the nett proceeds will be returned in silver dollars, but we cannot exchange silver for gold, or gold for silver.

Yours Respectfully

Jas. Pollock

Director

Messrs.

Stone & Downer

Boston, Mass.

Mch. 14 2

Dr. Sir

Your letter of 12th inst, has been received.

We have no "pamphlet of issues of coin", but enclose you a 'Medal Circular' for your information.

There were no issues of the cent in 1815.

Yours Respy

Jas. Pollock

Director

per J. C. P.

T. Henry Dutcher Esq
118 Congress St
Troy N.Y.

Mar. 14th 2

Sir

Your letter of 13th inst has been duly received.

We cannot send you the silver dollars of 1871+72; but can furnish you with a Proof Sett, as per enclosed "Medal Circular", for $3.00 silver, or $3.50 currency. The sett contains all the coins of 1872 from the silver dollar to the cent.

If you want silver dollars you must deposit silver bullion here, and the amount will then be returned to you in dollars, as per the terms of enclosed "Circular in Relation to Deposits of Silver Bullion".

Yours Respectfully

Jas. Pollock

Director

Mr Jas. P. Freeman
Westfield
Mass

March 14th 2

Sir

Your letter of the 12th inst, enclosing a printed copy of "a Circular letter (marked "B") in relation to American Medals and Cabinet Coins", "purport=ing to have been issued by you (me) July 1st 1866, and to which your (my) name is printed", has been received.

In reply I have to say that neither this Circular marked "B", nor any of a similar kind, was printed, signed or issued by me or by my authority. These circulars were prepared, printed, signed and issued by authority of Dr. H. R. Linderman, late Director of the Mint. I did not, during my first or second term of office, print issue any such Circular; nor

were there two circulars of this description, one signed by myself, as you suggest, as Director, either in my first or second term, and the other by Dr. Linderman.

The date of this Circular "B", July 1st 1866, is undoubtedly an error, - it should be July 1st 1867. My name is not printed on the Circular, only pasted on, and that without my authority or knowledge, by one of the clerks in the Medal room. The name of H. R. Linderman will be found, on examination, printed on Circular "B", when the pasted name is raised up; and the name printed on these Circulars was that of Dr. Linderman, and no other.

The only Circular issued by me during my first term, was on a broad sheet of letter paper, and

contained the names, sizes, prices &c
of the Medals, and modes of payment,
and nothing more. I enclose a half
sheet of that Circular, marked "A";
the only part I can find, as a
sample of the Circular used by me
prior to October 1866, when I resigned.
The other half of the sheet is lost.
It contained only the price of the gold
and silver medals, similar to the price
list on Circular 'B', page 12.

The issuing of Circular 'B',
with my name pasted on, and over
Dr. Linderman's, by the Clerks in the
Medal Room, was without my
knowledge or authority; nor did I
know of that Circular, or of its being
issued, as stated, until after the ex-
-amination by yourself in January
last, when my attention was direc-
-ted to it by the Chief Coiner. I had
never read it till then, and was

under the impression that the old Circular of my first term was still used.

The Circular "B" was prepared by Mr E. Dubois, Assistant Assayer, by direction of Dr. Linderman in 1867, and Mr Dubois, in his letter to me herewith enclosed (marked "b"), states that the date 1866 is a typographical error, and it should be 1867."

I resigned October 1st 1866; Dr. Linderman came into office April 1st 1867 and continued until May 1st 1869, and during this time the Circular was prepared and issued, as stated by Mr Dubois.

I also enclose a letter from Theodore K. Vogel (marked "D"), who was employed in the Director's department of the Mint during the entire administration of Dr. Linderman

who also states emphatically that the Circular "B" was published and issued during the administration of Dr. Lindeman, and that the date should be 1867. His reference to "Hill's Engraving Machine", (which is also referred to in the Circular) - and of which I knew nothing when I resigned in October 1866, corroborates his statement, and establishes the error in the date. He also explains how my name was put on the Circular, and without my authority.

I do not, - I cannot mistake, for I am positively certain, that I did not, on July 1st 1866, or at any time during my first administration, which closed October 1st 1866, print, publish, sign or issue, or cause to be printed, published, signed or issued, any such Circular as the one marked "B"; nor have I at any time

during my present term, except as issued, without my knowledge or authority.

I may here say that after reading the circular "B", I cannot approve all its suggestions and directions; and some of its statements should not have been made.

Enclosed you will find a new Medal Circular, marked "F," which I have caused to be prepared. It is brief, economical and explicit.

I had my name as Director printed on slips to be used on our "Silver Bullion Circulars," and on a "Statement of Foreign Silver Coins." A large number of these Circulars had been printed during Dr. Linderman's administration, with his name as Director. To economize and save reprinting I used these Circulars with my name pasted over his by

my direction, (see Circulars "G. No. 1" "G. No. 2"; also "H No 1." and "H. No. 2")

The Circular letter "B", in relation to American Medals, I never read until January last, and, as before stated, never authorised my name to be pasted or added to it in any way. I herewith return it to you.

By accident the first leaf was somewhat torn here, but is safely secured, and in good condition.

I am

Yours Very Respectfully

Jos. Pollock

Director

Hon. R. W. Taylor
Comptroller Treasury
Washington D.C.

March 15th 2

Dr Sir

Your letter of 12th instant, enclosing a nickel cent of 1857, has been received.

The coin is worth but one cent and no more. They are very abundant, and are in constant circulations, but are worth no more than any other cent.

The coin is herewith returned to you.

Yours Respy
Jas. Pollock
Director
per J. C. P.

Mr Jacob Myers
Box 205, Kankakee
Ills

March 15th 2

Gents

Yours of the 11th Instant, enclosing Draft by the Nat'l Bank of Illinois to order of Director U.S. Mint, on Jay Cooke & Co. Philadelphia for Fifty Dollars, in payment of order for same amount in small coin, has been received

The draft has twice been presented for payment, and payment refused, on the grounds that the Bank has no funds to its credit, at that place.

We will hold the draft subject to your order.

Yours Respectfully

Director

Henry Schonekoff & Bro
Chicago
Ill

Mch. 16th 2

Dear Sir

Your letter of 9th inst, has been duly received.

We have but a few pounds of scrap copper on hand, and it is accumulating very slowly. We cannot name a price per pound for it at this time.

If we should have any on hand in future we will notify you of the fact.

Yours Respy.

Jas. Powell
Director

B. H. Jenks Esq.
Prest. Bridesburg Mfg Co.
65 N. Front St
Philada

March 16th 2

Dear Sir

Your letter of the 13th instant, has been duly received, and I take pleasure in replying to the questions you put to me on behalf of the Committee on Coinage. I hope that, not knowing the objects in view, my answers will not be a misapprehension of your meaning.

1st. "To what degree of fineness are gold and silver deposits assayed and computed at the Mint"?

To speak closely, gold is assayed to the tenth of a thousandth of fineness; $\frac{1}{10,000}$; Silver is assayed to the quarter of a thousandth, $\frac{1}{4}$ of 1000, or $\frac{1}{4000}$. Our balances, and our processes admit of this delicacy. Yet it is well agreed among the best Assayers in

the World, and it is precisely the experience here, that the want of a perfect admixture of gold alloyed with silver or copper, in the melting pot, and from slight variations in cupelling, and acid action, it will not often happen that two assays of such gold will come out precisely alike, but may easily vary two or three ten-thousandths. It is therefore obvious, that the nearest practicable report on such gold, is the half-thousandth; and this is the rule at all our Mints and Assay offices. We believe that assay-reports in London and Paris only go to the whole thousandth.

In fine gold, say over 990 thousandths, there is not the same chance of variation; still, a perfect uniformity, to the last ten-thousandth, cannot be counted upon.

In alloyed silver, a remarkable segregation takes place in the act of cooling after a melting, so that the only way to get a fair assay of it is to take

out a little while fluid, and pour it in water, where the instant chill prevents a separation of the metals. Even with that precaution, we consider two results only a half-thousandth apart, a very good confirmation.

In fine silver, or nearly fine, there is not the same occurrence, and we can assay as well from cuttings, though generally taking granulations, as just mentioned.

I may add, that two results of gold absolutely fine, or silver, can be certainly had to the ten-thousandth.

2. We make no distinction between refined and unrefined bullion, in the matter of assaying and computing. We report for the depositor to the half-thousandth. But in assaying for the Mint, that is, for the Melter and Refiner to make up or transfer ingots for coining, we report as close as the beam will indicate; that is one ten-thousandth for gold,

and one quarter of a thousandth for silver. This enables him to be very exact in making up his pots.

3. I find that your third question is included in the fourth, which I proceed to answer.

4. The Mint ordinarily refines gold to 995 or 996 thousandths. This is by the nitric acid process. The chlorine process, which we have in prospect, would permit the same, or higher.

Our silver bars are frequently refined to absolute purity, or 1000; and so reported, though they might perhaps be a tenth of a thousandth under. In other cases we report 999 ths.

5. The gold bars received at the Mint from the Assay Office at New York, are almost always fine, that is, as high as 998 thousandths. There the sulphuric acid process is used. This

is a cheaper process than the nitric, but it does no so surely remove the last traces of lead, and consequently there has been some trouble from brittleness, in working coins therefrom; and instances of coin that have a flaw and will not ring, come to our notice more frequently than in former times. In the English Mint they remedy, or propose to remedy this defect, by a supplementary refining with the chlorine process, which is very effective, and very cheap.

The silver bars sent from the same office, are of two classes; 1, fine; that is 998 to 999½ fine; 2, alloyed, and with a wide range of quality, say from 750 to 900, and perhaps averaging the medium or lower. These are the deposits of all kinds, including Mexican and other foreign coins, and bars from native silver, sometimes of a low grade, and not free from the base metals which renders silver brittle. These last require a good deal of fine silver

to intermix in order to bring up to the standard of coin, and therefore it is understood that the Assay office will, as far as possible, send us a standard average; for otherwise, the refining account here is put to an expense which is not borne by the original depositors, as the law requires.

We have had some embarrass=ment from this cause, but it has been removed upon proper represen=tations.

I am Sir

Very Respectfully Yours

J. A. Pollock
Director.

Hon Samuel Hooper
Acting Chairman
Committee on Coinage

Mch. 16th 2

Danl. Graybill Esq
Ellers P.O. Pa.

Sir

Your letter and
mineral, have been rec'd.
The mineral is shale,
it contains no gold or silver,
is very common, and of no
value.

Yours Respy
Jas Pollock
Director
per J.C.P.

Mchs 16th 2

Sir

Your letter of the 12th inst, has been received this morning.

The Mint executes coinage for depositors of bullion upon the terms of the enclosed Circulars, to which you are respectfully referred. If you choose to purchase bullions, outside, in any of the designated shapes, and forward it to the Mint, the nett proceeds will be returned in any denominations of coin you may desire. Otherwise your only resource will be to purchase such new coins as you may want of Banks or Brokers having a supply on hand.

The Mint does not keep coins for sale, except "Proof Sets" of the current year.

Yours Respectfully

Jas Pollock
Director

J. P. Archer Esq.
No 166 Barr St
Cincinnati, Ohio.

Mch. 18th 2

Sir

I duly received your letter of the 23rd ultimo, together with the twenty (20) silver discs forwarded to me by Express.

I today send you by the Adams Express, as per the enclosed receipt twenty new silver discs, as per your order of February 23rd, the bill for which, is as follows, viz.

Twenty (20) discs fine silver weighing 119.65 ozs. at $1.40 per oz in half dollars =	$167.51
Work and time in making them	10.00
Total	$177.51

Sir.

By next proceeds of twenty (20) discs fine silver, as per enclosed "memoranda," in the name of my

Clerk, H. C. Hickok $162.73

Balance due H. C. & Mint $14.81

Payable in half-dollars.

Yours Very Respectfully

J. C. Pollock

Director

Commodore

A. Ludlow Case

Chief of Bureau of Ordnance

Navy Department

Washington D.C.

March 19th 2.

Dr. Sir

Your letter of the 11th inst, enclosing Draft to the order of my predecessor in office, H. R. Linderman, on the Central National Banks, New York for $100, and desiring a shipment of base coins to that amount; was duly received on the 13th inst.

As the letter was on official business of the Mint, and Dr. Linderman no longer resides in Philadelphia; and if he was here could not legally endorse it; having retired from the Mint upon my accession as Director on the 1st of May 1869; I endorsed the Draft, as Director, over to the Treasurer of the Mint, who transfered it to Jay Cooke & Co, by whom it was presented to the Central Nat.

Bank, N.York; where payment was refused because it was not endorsed by Dr. Lindeman, in whose favor it was drawn. The Draft was returned to the Treasurer of the Mint, who made the amount good to Jay Cooke & Co; the coin ordered having already been forwarded to you, and the Draft is now carried as Cash, until a proper draft can be substituted for it.

I have to request that you will immediately forward to me, a Draft of the same date and amount, payable to my official order; upon the receipt of which, the original Draft the Treasurer now holds will be returned to you.

Yours Respectfully

Jas Pollock

Director

Thos. C. Hammond Esq
Pres't. First Nat. Bank
Greencastle, Ind.

Mch 25. 2

Sir,

I have this morning received your letter of the 22 [illegible] enclosing draft to my official order on the Central National Bank, New York, for $100. dated the 11th inst. – in lieu of one of the same date and amount (herewith returned to you) inadvertantly made payable to the order of my predecessor, Dr. H. R. Sinderman.

Yours Respectfully

Jas. Pollock
Director

Thos. C. Hammond Esq
President First National Bank
Greencastle, Ind.

March 26th 72

Dear Sir

Your letter of the 12th inst, on the subject of non-sonorous gold coins, has been duly received.

It is very seldom that pieces of that description leave the Mint. A small number of them have come to our notice of late years, especially since the adoption of the process of refining by sulphuric acid in the U. S. Assay Office at New York. Opinions here are divided as to whether the flaws in gold coins are due to this cause, or to some latent defect occuring in the process of casting the ingots. Certain it is that the sulphuric process, recommended by its great economy, does not always remove the last traces of lead and antimony, which cause brittleness.

The smallest slit or flaw is sufficient to deaden the sound. You are aware that it forms the gold into two laminæ, perhaps only for a slight depth and

length, yet vibrating against each other, or rather checking the vibration of the whole pieces.

Your test by weighing is one of the best; that by acid is only effective in the case of base imitations having little gold in them.

I presume it would be a great accommodation to the public if not too inconvenient for yourselves, if you could accept such pieces without re-issuing them. The Assistant U. S. Treasurer at New Orleans occasionally forwards such pieces, and counterfeits, to this Mint, to get the value in good coin, and I presume would do the same on your behalf.

I will thank you to inform me of any further annoyances of this kind, or any kind, in regard to the metallic currency.

And if you should have occasion to write again, please inform me whether our silver coins

are largely current in your State, and whether they are accepted in large payments at a time.

Yours Respectfully

Jos. P. Moch
Director

P. Martin Esq.
Cashier Natl. Bank of
Jefferson, Texas.

P.S. I have no doubt the piece you describe is a genuine coin; the crack or flaw induced by the brittleness of the metals, during the process of drawing or milling.

March 27th 2

Sir

I have the honor to report that I have this day deposited with the Assistant Treasurer of the U. S. in this City, to the Credit of the Treasurer of the United States, the sum of Eight hundred dollars, profits from the Medal Department of the Mint; and I herewith enclose the original Certificate of the same, No. 7282, of this date.

Very Respectfully Yours

J. R. Snowden
Director

Hon Geo. S. Boutwell
Secretary of the Treasury
Washington D. C.

Mar. 30th 2

Dr Sir

Your letter of 26th inst. has been received.

The first large copper cents were struck in 1793, and the last in 1857.

There were none struck at all in 1815.

Yours Respy

Jas Pollock

Director

Mint U.S.

Andrew B. Thompson Esq

Eaton

Ohio

March 30th 2

Sir

Enclosed I return with my approval, the official bond of Robert P. Andrews, Melter and Refiner of the Branch Mint at Carson City, Nevada.

Very Respectfully Yours

Jas. Pollock
Director

Hon. Geo. S. Boutwell
Secretary of the Treasury
Washington D.C.

Apl 1st 2

Dear Sir

Your letter of the 29th ult. has been rec'd.

We cannot supply you with the old copper cents you wish, as the Mint does not deal in coins in that way. You will have to obtain them from a regular Coin Collector, either in New York or this City.

Yours Respy

Jas. Pollock
Supt

Jos. Hinghes
New Brunswick
N. Jersey

April 1st 2

Sir

Enclosed I forward statement of the amount and kind of each denominations of base coins redeemed at the Mint during the months of March 1872; and also a letter (copy) from the Treasurer of the Mint, correcting the report of total amount redeemed in February, and a corrected Statement of the total amount up to that month, as well as the correct total amount redeemed to date.

Very Respectfully Yours

Jas Pollock

Director

Hon Geo. S. Boutwell
Secretary of the Treasury
Washington D.C.

April 1. 2

Gentlemen,

The enclosed circular will give you full information with regard to the shipment and coinage of the silver brick referred to in your letter of the 28th ultimo. The net product will depend upon its weight and fineness. The whole silver dollar is worth nearly eight cents, in silver, more than two halves, or four quarters, or ten dimes, &c. The Mint will return you any denominations of silver coin that you may direct; and will promptly coin all the silver that you may forward for that purpose.

Yours Respectfully

Jas. Pollock
Director

Messrs
W. D. Morton & Co.
Detroit, Mich.

April 1st 2

Sir

At the close of business on the 30th ultimo, I made the usual monthly count and examination of the monies in the hands of the Treasurer of the Mint, with the following result; viz:

Gold	$304.879.88
Silver	97.919.48
Ordinary Fund	54.577.79
Cent Coinage Acts	332.355.84
San Francisco Br. Mint	985.37
Denver " "	202.02
Charlotte " "	200.00
Carson City " "	336.20
Base Coins redeemed	192.119.81
Total	$983.626.39

which corresponds with his Books.

I also made examination

into the general condition and operations of the Mint, and the institution was found to be in good working order, and its business conducted in a careful and satisfactory manner.

Yours Very Respectfully

Jno. Pollard

Director

Hon Geo. S. Boutwell
Secretary of the Treasury
Washington D.C.

April 1st 2

Sir

Enclosed I forward my official statement of Deposits and Coinage at the Mint of the United States, Philadelphia, during the month of March 1872.

Yours Very Respectfully

Jos. Pollock
Director

Hon. Geo. S. Boutwell
Secretary of the Treasury
Washington D.C.

April 2. 72.

Gentlemen,

Your letter of the 1st inst. has been received. The Mint redeems base coinage on the terms of Secretary Boutwell's circular of April 17, 1871, herewith enclosed; but there is no provision of law for the redemption of any of the silver coins.

Your $400. of silver 3¢ pieces can be sent to the Mint, and recoined into such other denominations as you may prefer, upon the terms of the enclosed Circular; or you can sell them to the Brokers or bullion-dealers. I do not know what other disposition you can make of them.

Yours Respectfully

Jas. Pollock

Director

Messrs.

Bruno & Bauer

5 Wall street

New York

Apl. 2d 2

Dr. Sir

Your letter of the 1st inst, has been duly received.

We cannot supply you with the gold 25¢ and 50 cent pieces, as the Mint does not strike them. Some few were struck in California a number of years since, but none are now legally made in any part of the Country.

I am unable to say where you could procure them.

Yours Respectfully

Jas Pollock
Director

Mr Jas. E. Morrison
Care Tuttle & Co
Holyoke, Mass.

Apl 3d 2

Dr. Sir

Your letter, and box of ore, have been received.

The ore is Galena, or lead ore, and contains from 75 to 80 per cent of pure lead.

Yours Respy
Jas. Pollock
Director
per J.C.R.

Mr P. H. Rummel
Minta
Indiana Co. Pa

April 3d 72

Dear Sir

Your letter of the 1st instant has been duly received.

The Book to which you refer, and which contained my accounts, as Director, with the Branch Mint at San Francisco, for Assay Coins, Sweeps &c, as also valuable vouchers for money paid by me, which vouchers were pasted in said Book at the foot of certain accounts therein; was taken and carried away, as I am informed, by a man named Quigg, at the close of the administration of my predecessor. On my reappointment as Director, in May 1869, Quigg was discharged by me, and took the Book with him when he left. Soon after my return, desiring to furnish Dr. Linderman, Special Agent, of the Treasury Department, with certain information contained in the Book, I searched for it in every room and vault in the building where by possibility

it might be found; inquired of all the parties I saw, who in any way could throw light upon the thing about it; but without success.

In the last six or eight months I learned that Quigg had the Book, and soon after, that he was in communication with George Eyster, the Treasurer of the Mint, to whom he subsequently gave it, and who had it in his possession until recently.

The Book and the Vouchers belonged exclusively to the Director; were taken for no honorable purpose, and were used with no desire to promote the public good or the interests of truth. I have now possession of the Book, and will retain it.

Yours Very Respectfully

Jas. Pollock

Director

Hon R. W. Taylor
First Comptroller Treasury
Washington D.C.

April 4. 2

Sir,

In reply to your inquiry of the 27th ultimo, I enclose a duplicate of the report of the Official Count of your former shipment of base coinage for redemption, and which you may rely upon as accurate — $94. being the correct amount.

There is no provision of law for the redemption of Silver 3 ¢ pieces, and they are therefore not redeemable.

The $300. in nickel 5 ¢ pieces will be duly accounted for upon their arrival.

Yours Very Respectfully

Jas. Pollock
Director

N. B. Stone, Esq
Post Master
San Francisco, Cal

apl. 6th 2

Madame

Your letter of Feb. 28th (?) was received this morning, as also the metal you refer to.

The shining particles are grains of mica; they have no gold or silver in them, and are of no value.

Yours Respy
Jas. Pollock
Director
per J.C.P.

Mrs Carrie A. Burch
Camden
Oneida Co
New York

April 6th 2

Sir

Your letter with an enclosure of ore, has been received.

The material is Sul=phide of iron, or Iron Pyrites; it contains no gold or silver, is very common, and of no value.

Yours Respy.
Jas. Pollock
Director
pr J.C.P.

Mr Saml. Randolph
Cartersville
Ills

April 8th 72

4

Fourth June 30 72

Fifty thousand eight hundred and seventy five

July 1st 71

9.475
31.250
8.750
.150
1.250

Geo. S. Boutwell Jas. D. Pollard Director

Apr. 10th 2

Geo. Shai Esq. Centerview Ohio

Sir

Your letter of 9th inst, enclosing samples of ore for examination, has been duly received.

The ore is merely common iron pyrites, it is found in all parts of the Country, and is of no value.

Yours Respy.

Jas. Pollock

Director

per J. C. P.

April 11th 72

Dear Sir

"The process of refining, assaying and melting" gold and silver, comprises a very large subject. You can get a good deal of information from a few publications, leaving still a great deal not to be had from books, but only from experience.

The last edition of "Ure's Dictionary of Arts" &c, an English work, republished in this Country, contains much valuable detail.

Percy's Metallurgy, also an English book, and more recent, would answer your purpose very well. It treats of all metals, but in separate volumes. You of course only want that which relates to the precious metals. No doubt you can get it in New York, without the delay of importation.

It would be well for you to witness the process of assaying, and refining, which you will see well

performed in the U. S. Assay offices, at New York. The sulphuric refining, about which you inquire, is practiced there.

There is a new process of refining gold, by chlorine gas, in most respects superior to any other, of which you will find nothing in the books. There is a notice of it in my last Annual Report, which I send herewith.

I need hardly say that the employment of one or more expert helpers, in the various branches of this business, would be of more use to you than much pleading or casual inspection.

The separation of gold filings from [illegible], or similar mineral mixtures, is usually effected by melting with [illegible] fluxes, such as nitre, soda and borax.

Respectfully Yours

Jas. Pollock

Director

Mr Jas H. Williamson
652 Broadway
New York City

April 12 2

Sir

Our Cabinet of Coins is so largely supplied with ancient & modern pieces, that I cannot make a bid for any part of your collection. The only thing you can do is to make a bargain with some of our extensive coin-dealers, of whom I may mention W. Elliot Woodward, of Roxbury, Mass: – Edward Cogan, Brooklyn N.Y., and Dr Edward Maris, 127 S. Fifth St. Philad'a. They perhaps can sell them for you.

Respectfully yours

J. A. Pollock
Director

Wm B Hawes Esq
507 Sixth St.
Washington
D.C.

April 13th 2

Sir

I forward herewith a copy of a communication received on the 11th instant, from Mr A. London Snowden, Chief Coiner of the U. S. Mint.

I deem the matter of sufficient importance to submit to you, and to ask, whether any one has been authorized by your Department, or any other Department of the Government, to act as a Secret Detective upon this Institution, or upon any, or all of its officers &c.

I cannot believe it possible that he is acting by your authority, but am fully satisfied, and agree with Mr Snowden, that the fellow representing himself, as

belonging to the Secret Service Branch of the Treasury Department, is either an impostor, or the tool and creature of "the base and unprincipled man, or men, who have endeavored" with all the sneaking cowardice and malicious wickedness of midnight assassins to destroy by foul and false charges the reputation of the officers of this Mint; to injure the Institution, and the administration itself.

In view of the recent thorough examination, conducted by an honorable and conscientious gentle=man, designated by yourself, I hope it is unnecessary to say that the officers here fear no investiga=tion, secret or open, by honest and truthful men; but I must, in the name of truth and honor, protest against the action of self-constituted agents, who, actuated

3

by malice, endeavor by every means in their power to destroy the useful=
=ness of the officers of this Institution.

Your reply will be duly appreciated

Yours Very Respectfully

J. A. Pollock
Director

Hon. Geo. S. Boutwell
Secretary of the Treasury
Washington D.C.

April 13. 21

Sir

In reply to your letter of this 11th inst. received this morning, I herewith mail you twenty five copies, each, of the latest edition of the Mint Statement of Gold and Silver Foreign Coins.

Yours Very Respectfully

Jas Pollock

Director

A. C. Flagg, Esq

Register's Office

Treasury Department

Washington D.C.

Apl 13. 2

Sir,

Your letter of the 11th inst, enclosing a remittance of twenty five cents, was duly received this morning.

I appreciate your good intentions, but the Government pays me for my services, and beyond my official salary, which is fixed by law, I cannot consent to receive any compensation, large or small, direct or indirect, from any other source, for the performance of any official duty. I therefore, while acknowledging your kindly motions, be with return your remittance,

Yours Respectfully

Jas. Powell
Director

Mr. W. C. Cobb
Portland Me

April 16th 2

Sir

Referring to your letter of the 10th of February last, I have the honor to report "the amount of base coinage issued during the last calendar year, - the amount on hand of the new base coinage, together with the amount of the old coinage which has been brightened ready for re-issue". The report is to the 11th of April inclusive. See Statement herewith enclosed, marked 'A'.

In the same letter of February 10th 1872, you say "The money received in exchange for the base coinage which has been redeemed, cannot be used for paying the expenses of preparing the old coin for re-issue; but it will be necessary to obtain an appropriation

for the purpose." I enclose an estimate (marked "B") of the amount required to pay the expenses of redeeming the base coinage; including the receiving, weighing; counting, re-counting, cleaning, brightening, counting and re-counting after cleaning, delivering &c, &c,, also cost of material,, ~~and~~ for bags, boxes &c, inseparable from redemption. The estimate is as near the amount required as it is possible to make it under the circumstances. I respectfully ask your approval of these estimates, and that Congress be asked to grant the appropriations required.

Yours Very Respectfully

Director

Hon Geo. S. Boutwell
Secretary of the Treasury
Washington D.C.

Statement of Base Coinage issued

New Coin

New Coin issued from January 1st 1871 to January 1st 1872	$99.890
New Coin issued from January 1st 1872 to April 11th 1872 (inc)	32,500
Total	$132,390.—

Reissue

Old Coins reissued from August 24th 1871 to January 1st 1872	$205.155.—
Old Coins reissued from January 1st 1872 to April 11th 1872 (inc)	120,503.20
Total	$325,658.20

On hand

New Coins on hand April 11th 1872	$1,350
Old Coin for reissue Do	12,250.75
Total	$13,600.75

Amount available on base coinage a/c April 1. 1872	$13,242,64
Total amount of base coin redeemed to April 1. 1872	$536,205,48

Estimate for the expenses at the U. S. Mint, of receiving, melting, recoining, cleaning, brightening, issuing &c, the base coinage, under the act of March 3d 1871

Estimate for three months of the year ending June 30th 1872.

Wages	Wages of workmen, including material for bags, boxes manufacturing &c;	$2,500 per month. $10,500 00

Estimate for the year ending June 30th 1873.

Wages	Wages of workmen, including material for bags, boxes, manufacturing &c;	$2500 per month $42,000 00

In my letter of February 6th 1872, I stated "that (aside from the cost of the material) the receiving, counting, cleaning, storing, and re-issuing of the redeemed base coinage, is as expensive as its original manufacture, and occupies the time, and requires the services of nearly as large a working force." I further stated that "the amount required in addition to the base coinage fund, would not be large; probably would not exceed four or five thousand dollars per month."

In conducting the operations of the Mint the workmen and employes are so frequently and necessarily interchanged, and pass from one kinds of coinage to another, according to the demands of the occasion, that it is very difficult to determine how many will be required for the gold and silver; how many will be required for the base coinage; the base coinage redemptions, or the operations con-

-nected therewith. It follows as an actual necessity that our working force must be equal to the emergency; and in view of the large amount of base coinage redeemed during the past year, and its prospective increase during the present, a large re-duction of the present force would impair the successful working of the Institutions.

The estimate submitted is based upon the actual number deemed necessary in redeeming and re-issuing the base coinages.

(Yours Very (Respectfully

Jas. P. Kimball
Director

Hon. Geo. S. Boutwell
Secretary of the Treasury
Washington D.C.

April 17. 71

Dear Sir,

I have just received your communication of this date, expressing fears that your losses have been very heavy during the past year, from excessive wastage, which you ascribe to volitization, resulting from the very base character of much of the silver received.

I agree with you that we should not receive any more such silver, and that parties sending it, should be so informed.

I approve your suggestion that some one should be appointed to take note of the deposits of gold and silver, on the roof, and in the stacks to and the assay

of such samples, and especially any facts or causes of volatility; and have designated Mr. Frederick Eckfeldt, for that service.

Yours Very Respectfully

Jas. Pollock
Director

To
Prof. Jas. C. Booth
Melting Refiner
U. S. Mint

April 19 2

Dear Sir

The act of Congress provides that the silver alloy, in our gold coins, shall not exceed one-half of the tenth; that is, must not be over 50 parts in 1000. This very large allowance was to avoid the necessity of parting out the silver from gold bullion, at a time when the processes were much less complete than now. In fact, the only reason for having any silver in the gold coin, is the expense when it will not pay to take it out. Year by year, our gold coins (and those of other countries) have been growing redder, from the increasing proportion of copper. For some years, in accounting with depositors of silvery gold we have deducted for 10 parts per thousand, as not obliging ourselves to part any closer; but in fact, our fine gold more nearly excludes silver, than that.

In general, I suppose the silver in our present gold coin, does not exceed 5 or 6 parts in 1000.

The coin would look better, & more like gold, with about 25 parts silver, 75 copper; but it is considered too great a waste of silver.

Silver coin is composed of 900 silver, 100 copper.

Nickel-copper coin, 75 copper, 25 nickel.

Very respectfully yours

Jas. Pollock
Director

Prof. H. L. Kendrick
West Point
N. Y.

April 20 2

Gents

Yours of the 19th Inst. inquiring about a lot of base coins, sent to the Mint for redemption, has been received and in reply I have to state that the coins have been received and the Certificate forwarded to the Treasury Department in compliance with the terms of enclosed circular

Your Respectfully
James Pollock
Director
pr Boyd

Evans Wood & Co
Rising Sun
Md

April 22 2

Sir,

Your letter of the 8th instant has just been received.

The Mint will receive deposits of bullion, and return the proceeds in coin, upon the terms of the two enclosed circulars, which answer most of your interrogatories, and to which you are respectfully referred. But with the delivery of the coin at the counter of the Mint, the functions and responsibility of the Mint are ended; and what further disposition may be made of the coin for your account will depend entirely upon the private instructions you may give to your agent.

The Adams Express Company

have an Office and Agent in the Mint building, engaged in receiving deposits and returning the proceeds; and if you so direct, with forward you the coin, in any denominations you may designate; or purchase and mail, or Express, you, a coin draft; or sell the coin, and purchase a currency draft, from any National Bank, or private banker, that you may prefer, or leave the Agent to select; but it would be out of his power to procure a U.S. Treasury draft, because it would be a purely private business transaction.

You can address your package "U.S. Mint, Philadelphia, Pa." and prepay the freight charges or not, as may suit your convenience — so the Agent reports to me.

Yours Respectfully

Jas. Pollock
Director

Mrs. Chas. H. Blair,
Breckenridge, Colorado
Coy.

P.S. If the express-charges are not prepaid, the agent here will, of course, deduct the amount from the proceeds of your deposit. The Express Company will also expect to deduct a moderate compensation — some small sum — for purchasing and sending you a draft &c.

J. P.

April 22d 2

Sir

Your letter of 20th inst, duly received.

The testing of metals &c, is done here by our Assayers. The charge is five dollars for each assay made. If you will send your samples we will assay it and report the result to you, on receipt of the money.

Yours Respectfully

Director

Ges. W. Dinges Esq.
Myerstown
Pa

April 22d 2

Sir

Yours of 22d inst. duly received.

Under the circumstances stated in your communication, I can see no impropriety in making the exchange of silver for gold as proposed, so far as the Medal Department is concerned.

If desired, the exchange can be made with the Medal Department.

Yours Respectfully

J. Pollock

Director

A. Loudon Snowden Esq.
Chief Coiner U. S. Mint
Philadelphia

April 24th 2

Sir

Your letter of the 23d inst, has been duly received.

The Mint does not keep old coins for sale. Your order for old red cents could probably be filled by some of the regular coin dealers in Philadelphia or New York, and to them I must refer you.

The Mint has but one specimen of the "widow's mite"; and that is not for sale; if it was, it would require several hundred dollars to buy it.

Yours Respectfully

A. Loud
Director

Mr A. E. Bonsall
Salem, Ohio.

April 24th 2

Sir

Your letter of the 22d inst, enclosing two five cent pieces found in a package of that denomination of nickel sent you from the Mint, and which you believe to be counterfeit; has been received.

On examination the pieces are found to be counterfeit. They are light in weight, yellow in color, and the impression (though good) coarser and more irregular than that of the genuine coin. The latter is especially observable, in the words "United States", the cross bars, and the definition of the stars.

These coins (if sent from the Mint) were among the coin redeemed under the Act of March 3d 1871, and cleaned, whitened and re-issued by

direction of the Secretary of the Treasury. The counterfeit coins so nearly resemables the true, that it is impossible by the most careful counting to detect all the false in the thousands and tens of thousands of pieces that pass through the hands of the Counters.

The re-issue of the old coin from the Mint, whether nickel five cent pieces or any other coin, ought not to be authorized. I recommended the re-coinage of the redeemed coins, which would have cost no more than the cleaning, counting, re-counting whitening &c, of the old for re-issue; and would have avoided the issue, indirectly or accidentally, of any counterfeit coin by the Mint of the United States.

I believe every care is

used by the clerks and counters in the Treasury Department of the Mint, to separate the true from the false, but a base piece will sometimes escape detection.

Very Respectfully Yours

Director

Hon. T. E. Spinner
Treasurer of the U. S.
Washington D.C.

P.S. I have retained one of the coins sent for assay and send one genuine in its place. The other one I return to you.

&c

April 24. 2

Sir,

Your letter of the 18th inst. enclosing for examination, a U.S. twenty dollar gold piece, was duly received.

The proved to be worth $19.85 which amount I deposited, as per request, with the Asst Treas. U.S. in this City, to the credit of James F. Casey, Collector of Customs, at New Orleans, La, in coin, on a/c of duties on imports, and herewith forward triplicate certificates thereof.

Very Respectfully

Jas. Pollock
Director

W. Simpson, Esq.
Cashier of Customs,
New Orleans, La.

April 24 2

J. H. H. Taylor Esq
Dear Sir

Yours of the 20th inst, enclosing five dollars in gold, for five one dollar gold pieces of 1872, has been recd.

Enclosed please find the five one dollar gold pieces as requested.

Yours Respy

J. H. Taylor
Director

April 25 2

Dear Sir,

I thank you for the opportunity of making a selection for the Mint Cabinet, from your fine lot of antique coins; altho' we are so well supplied, that we have only retained 8 of the pieces held at 2/6, and 9 at 1/6.

I enclose a Bill of Ex. for £1 . 11 . 3.

The remainder I send this day by Express, addressed as you direct.

I regret that American taste is so much limited to American coins.

I have also to thank you for three new copper coins of Ceylon, received yesterday thro' the Department of State, particularly interesting as

showing an adoption of centesimal division of the rupee.

For Cabinet purposes, copper coins (in good order) are nearly as interesting & useful as those of the precious metals; and in our case, harder to get.

I need not say, that the Engraving Machine, procured through you, continues to perform admirably.

Sincerely yours

J. Ad. Pickard
Director

B. P. Stevens Esq.
London

April 26th 2

Sir

Your letter of the 23d inst, was received this morning.

Your piece is a coin sometimes called the "Franklin Cent". They were coined by authority of Congress in the year 1787. The intrinsic value is one cent, and the market value depends upon its condition, and is from five cents up to a dollar. The Mint is already supplied.

Yours Respt.

J. Pollock
Director

Eli P. Coe Esq
Pittston Pa

April 29th 2

Sir

Having received and examined your statement exhibiting the settlement of the Gold and Silver Accts of the Chief Coiner from April 1st 1871 to April 25th 1872, I hereby approve it, and authorize you to deliver to that officer such bullion as will enable him to proceed with the coinage as usual.

Yours &c

Jos. Ross
Director U.S. Mint

H. S. Cochran
Receiving Clerk for Treasurer
U.S. Mint

Apl. 29 2

Sir

Your letter of 26th inst, has been received.

We cannot furnish you with the old cents you desire, as the Mint does not deal in coins in that way.

You must apply to a regular Coin Collector for the desired pieces.

Yours Respy
Jas. Pollock
Director
per J.S.P.

Mr J. W. Parker
117 Sixth St
Buffalo N.Y.

April 29 2

Dear Sir,

In compliance with your request of the 26th inst, and for the reasons given, permission is hereby granted to cut the two holes specified in your communication — "One into the next room occupied by workmen in the Melter & Refiner's department, and the other into the open space occupied by Engine No. 1."

Yours Very Respectfully

J. A. Pollard
Director

A. Loudon Snowdon, Esq
Chief Coiner U.S. Mint

May 1st 2

Sir

Enclosed I forward statement of the amount and kind of each denomination of base coins redeemed at the Mint during the month of April 1872, under the act of March 3d 1871; as also the amount previously redeemed, and the total amount redeemed.

Very Respectfully Yours

A. Loudy

Director

Hon G. S. Boutwell
Secretary of the Treasury
Washington D.C.

April 30th 2

Dear General

Your letter of the 26th instant, in relation to certain dies now being made in this City for your brother-in-law, Mr. Campbell; and asking me to furnish such facilities in completing them as can with propriety be afforded; has been received.

It will give me pleasure to comply with your request, and in a manner that shall not interfere with public business.

Yours Very Respectfully

Jas. Pollock
Director

Genl. O. E. Babcock
Executive Mansion
Washington D.C.

May 1st 2

Sir

At the close of business on the 30th ultimo, I made the usual monthly count and examination of the monies in the hands of the Treasurer of the Mint, with the following result, viz;

Gold	$437.994.98
Silver	91.224.40
Ordinary Fund	91.500.21
Cent Coinage Apc	372.147.87
San Francisco Br. Mint	985.37
Denver " "	229.17
Charlotte " "	200.00
Carson City " "	336.20
Base Coinage redeemed	200.972.35
Total - -	$1.195.590.55

which corresponds with his Books.

I also made examination

into the general condition and operations of the Mint, and the Institution was found to be in good working order, and its business conducted in a careful and satisfactory manner.

Very Respectfully Yours

Geo. Pollock

Director

Hon Geo. S. Boutwell
Secretary of the Treasury
Washington D.C.

May 3d 2

Sir

In compliance with your request of the 29th ultimo, I herewith forward to you, by Express, for the Secretary of State, "a complete proof set of the gold, silver, bronze and nickel coins now authorized to be issued at the Mint".

I also, as per your directions, herewith enclose a "Statement of their denominational values", together with a receipted bill for the same, amounting to $48.62, of which sum $41.50, is payable in gold coin, and the balance, $2.12, in silver coins.

Please remit coin draft to my order.

Yours Very Respectfully

Hon Wm A. Richardson
Acting Secretary Treasy

A. Pollock
Director

May 3d 2

Department of State, Washington D.C.

To the U.S. Mint Dr.

For one proof sett of the gold coins of the United States	$41.50
Payable in gold coin	
For one proof sett of the silver, and bronze and nickel coins of the United States	2.12
Payable in Silver Coin	
Total	$43.62

Received Payment in Gold and Silver Coin, as above stated

Jas. Pollock

Director of the Mint

May 3rd 2

Dear Sir

Your letter of April 30th, has been duly received.

I have given instructions to the operative officers to make the tests and supply the information requested in your communication.

In making the assay to ascertain fineness, it will become necessary to cut at least one gold and one silver coin, and if you desire to test the uniformity of the fineness in the several pieces, it will become necessary to clip each one to obtain an assay therefrom.

I desire to ascertain whether it is your desire to test the fineness of each piece, or but one of each metal; and also to inform you that

in either event it will require the clipping of coin, which would of course destroy their character and beauty for future use.

I am, Yours Very Respectfully

Jas. Pollock
Director

Mr G. Foukoutsi
First Secretary of Japanese Embassy
Washington D.C.

May 4th 2

Sir

Your letter, and mineral, have been duly received.

The mineral is simply an inferior limestone, and contains no precious metals, nor is it an ore of any metal. It has no value.

Yours Respy
Jas. Pollock
Director
pr J.C.P.

Jos. H. Gammon Esq
Morristown
Tenn

By Telegraph.

Philadelphia
May 6th 2

Richard Hoopes
Treas. German Saving Institution
St. Louis Mo.

Silver dollars can only be had by depositing silver bullion. See circular by mail.

Jas. Pollock
Director of the Mint

(Collect)

May 7th 72

Sir

Your letter of the 6th instant, has been re=
=ceived, complaining of the return to you of twenty dollars in mutilated and defaced one and two cent coins, which you had sent to the Mint for redemption.

In reply I have to say that they were returned to you because of their damaged condition. In examining and counting base coins forwarded to the Mint for redemption, under the Act of March 3rd 1871, all "counterfeit or spurious", and "mutila=
=ted or spoiled" pieces are rejected, as you will see by the blank certificate of count which I herewith enclose for your infor=
=mation.

The Mint has no connection with the redemption of "mutilated currency."

Yours Respectfully
Jas Pollock
Director

Mr Wm McDonagh
Brooklyn
N. York

per [illegible]
Asst Treas

May 7th 2

Sir

Your letter of the 6th inst, inquiring about the analysis of minerals, chiefly iron ores, has been duly received.

In reply I have to say that the Assay Department of the Mint will pass its judgment upon minerals presented, by simple inspection; but it does not analyse any, except for gold and silver, in which case there is a charge of five dollars for each assay. Specimens of ores as large as a walnut, will be sufficient for inspection merely.

Analyses for the base metals, or mineral constituents, are made by various private establishments in this City; at what rates, we do not know.

Yours Respectfully
Jas. Pollock
Director
per J.A.P.

Mr D.G. Altland
Mount Top
York Co. Pa.

May 9th 2

Sir

The enclosed "original" Certificate of deposit, No 602, May 4th 1872, of Wm Miller, designated depositary of U. S., for $250, was sent to me by J. B. McMillan, Cashier of the Mobile, (Ala) Savings Banks, in payment of an order for that amount in 5¢ nickel coin.

As the deposit is to your credit, I am obliged to ask you to endorse the Certificate to my order, and return it to me, to enable me to draw the money.

Your Very Respectfully
Jas Pollock
Director

Hon T. E. Spinner
Treasurer United States
Washington D.C.

May 10. 2

Sir,

Please have made, at your early convenience, fifty (50) silver discs, for the use of the Bureau of Ordnance, of the Navy Department, Washington D.C. similar in all respects to those heretofore made.

Very Respectfully Yours
Jas Pollock
Director

To
James C. Booth, Esq
Melter & Refiner
U.S. Mint

May 10 2

Sir,

Directions have been given to prepare the fifty (50) silver discs requested in your letter of the 9th inst. When completed they will be duly forwarded to you by Express.

Very Respectfully Yours
Jas Pollock
Director
per H. C. Hickok
Director's Clerk

To
Com. A. Ludlow Case
Chief of Bureau of Ordnance
Navy Department
Washington, D.C.

May 11th 2

Dr. Sir

Your letter of May 6th has been duly received.

The Silver dollar of 1795 is worth nothing more than its intrinsic value. We have a specimen in the Mint Cabinet.

We have no "list of curiosity coins that we pay premiums for." Coins bought for the Cabinet are usually forwarded to us for inspection and approval, before the sale is made. It is optional with the Mint to purchase or not.

Yours &c

Jas. Pollock
Director

F. W. Miller
48 St Francis St
Mobile, Ala

May 11th 2

Geo. C. Thompson Esq
Agt. Adams Ex. Co. U.S. Mint
Dear Sir

I enclose a copy of a letter just received from Prof. Booth, M+R, in relation to the deposit of bullion by Mr. Handy. If Mr Handy, in a communication to me, will consent to the proposition, made by Prof. Booth, which is both just and reasonable, & pay the charges for refining &c, the deposits now here, and others, will be received.

We will very willingly do all that can be properly done for Mr Handy, without prejudice or loss to the Government

Yours Truly
J. Pollock
Director

May 13th 2

Sir

Yours of the 10th Instant, in which you say that you sent a draft on New York for $600.= to be returned in nickel coin, sometime in March, has been received. A letter on the same subject to the Treasurer of the Mint in which you state that you had sent the draft to him, also has been received. After a full inspection of our books, I have to state that no such draft has been received here

Yours Respectfully

J. A. Pollock
Director

J. A. Holmes Esq
Cashr. Manufacturer's Nat Bk
Chicago
Ill

May 13th 2

Sir

In reply to your inquiry of the 11th instant, I have to state, that the new Marks, proposed by the Chancellor of the German Empire, is to be represented in two gold coins, of twenty and ten marks. It is not needful for your purpose, that I should state the intended standards of weight and fineness; but simply to say that if those standards are duly maintained, a new piece of ten marks would be worth, without Mint charges, $2.38.2; or, with the half per-cent off. $2.37. This would make the Mark, 23.7 cents, and in Custom House rules it might very well be called 23½ cents. I must

remark, that this appears as yet to be only a project of law, not formally enacted; so that we have, of course, no pieces to assay.

I will also say that it should be called the Iced Mark of Germany, to distinguish it from the mark of Hamburg, well known in commerce, and of very different value.

Very Respectfully

Jas. Pollock

Director

Hon. G. A. Finkelnburg M. C.
Ways & Means Committee
House of Representatives
Washington D. C.

May 13th 2

Sir

In a communication under date of the 6th instant, addressed to me, by Mr Ly. Tsukouksi, First Secretary of the Japanese Embassy, Washington D.C; he states, amongst other things, that "a complete set of Japanese gold and silver coins, for specimens, has been transmitted to the Honorable Secretary of the Treasury, for the United States Mint."

I see that an announcement of this fact has found its way into the newspapers, and attracted public attention, so that we daily have repeated inquiries for them from visitors to the Mint Cabinet, who are anxious to see them.

As the coins have not yet

reached the Mint, and for that reason we are unable to gratify the public curiosity with regard to them, I respectfully suggest that if they have been received at the Department, they may be forwarded to the Mint, to take their appropriate place in our valuable collection, and minister to the gratification of the tens of thousands of visitors who find an inspection of its rich and varied treasures a pleasant and instructive recreation.

Very Respectfully Yours

A. Pollock

Director

Hon Geo. S. Boutwell
Secretary of the Treasury
Washington D.C.

May 14th 2

Sir

I have duly received your letter of the 6th instant, authorizing us to cut the new Japanese Coins which you had forwarded for examination, in order that we might comply with your desires to have the fineness of each piece tested and reported upon; and this has, accordingly been done.

A brief inspection of these coins has impressed us with the belief that they furnish a very interesting study; and our Assayer desires a few days indulgence to make the report.

In the meantime, may I trouble you to state for our information;

1st. What is the meaning of the

legends, and the symbolical devices?
2. what kind of bullion is used in making these coins; whether from Japanese mines, or foreign; or the working up of old coins; or all these?
3. whether the currency there is expected to be purely metallic; or partly in paper money?
4. Are the terms yen, sen, and rin, new money terms; and are they expressions of decimal arithmetic?

The complete set of Japanese gold and silver coins for specimens, which you notify me have been transmitted to the Honorable Secretary of the Treasury, for the Mint, has not yet reached me. It will be duly acknowledged upon its arrival.

The values of the pieces on assay, will be returned to you with our report.

Yours Very Respectfully

Jas. Pollock
Director

Mr G. Fonkouitsi
First Secy, Japanese Embassy

May 14. 2

Sir,

Your letter of ~~Friday~~ day enclosing a statement of the annual settlement of the Melter and Refiner's accounts, and calling my attention to the fact of the Silver Wastage being 37.947.89 in Excess of the legal allowance, has been received.

You will please make the re-delivery of the bullion to the Melter & Refiner in the usual form, but in the presence of the Commissioner now at the Mint, and which is charged by the Secretary of the Treasury with the duty of making an Examination of the facts connected with the Silver wastage of the Melter & Refiner, and afford full opportunity to take such memoran-

-da in relation to the character &c
of the bullion, as may appear
to the Commission desirable.

Yours Very Respectfully

J. A. Pollock
Director

Geo. Eyster, Esq
Treasurer U.S. Mint

May 15th 2

Sir

Should the Committee on Silver Wastage desire to set apart, for such test as they may think proper to institute, any portion of the silver bullion about to be redelivered to you, or otherwise in your custody; you will please allow them to do so; the bullion reserved to remain in your custody, but sealed up by the Committee, if it should think proper to do so, to prevent it being handled by any other persons than the Committee.

Yours Respectfully

A. L. Pollock

Director

Prof. Jas. C. Booth
Melter & Refiner
U.S. Mint
Philadelphia

May 15th 72.

Dear Sir

Your letter of the 13th inst, has been duly received.

You have misunderstood the purport of my letter of the 11th inst. The object of the letter was to obtain from you an official assent to the conditions of April 19th 1872, through me as the official head of the Mint; previous communications having been made by you to other officers of the Mint, or Mr Geo. C. Thompson, Express Agent. Your consent to the conditions indicated in these letters, should be made to me as Director. They are virtually the same in both. You will therefore please to state them, and your consent thereto, in your reply, to me.

I regret to say that we have progressed no farther with the two last shipments deposited by you on the conditions named, than to melt them, preparatory to their being refined (our operations being suspended for annual settlement), and

therefore cannot give you even an approx=
=imate estimate of the losses in refining. We
hope to commence our refining operations
within a day or two, and shall be able, prob=
=ably, to give a satisfactory answer, within
a week or ten days, as to the amount of
wastage to be expected in refining. After
that, we trust the course of business will
progress uniformly and rapidly.

In the meantime, to accommodate
you, with all that we can do legitimately,
I am willing to let you have all that is
contained, before refining, in the lot of
April 29th 1872, (or about that date) and to
deduct from the lot of May 9th, instant,
(just received) what may prove the wast=
=ages of both these lots in refining.

Yours Respectfully

Director

Parker Handy Esq.
24 Nassau St.
New York

May 15th 72

Sir

You are hereby instructed not to enter the Weights and Assays of the lot of Bullion last received from Parker Handy, (May 8/72,) in our Books, until all the silver we can get out of it shall have been procured "extracted" from it as fine silver, and duly reported to you by the Melter & Refiner, with the proper charges.

This rule to apply to all deposits of Bullion of similar character that may hereafter be made by Parker Handy.

Yours Respy

Jas Pollock

Director

H. S. Cochran Esq
Treasurer's Clerk
U. S. Mint

May 16th 2

Sir

Your order of the 15th instant, for assorted base coins to the amount of $2000; and enclosing Draft for that amount on the Assistant Treasurer of the United States at Philadelphia; has been duly re=ceived; but as the Draft was inadvertently issued without being signed, I herewith return it for your signature.

Yours Very Respectfully

Director

Hon L. R. Tuttle
Assistt Treasurer U. S.
Washington D.C.

May 17th 2

Sir,

Your letter of the 14th inst. in reference to Silver Coinage has been duly received.

The two enclosed circulars will give you full information as to the terms and conditions on which we receive Gold bullion, and Silver bullion, for coinage.

The Adams Express Company have an office and agent in the Mint building to take charge of such deposits as may be entrusted to them, and make returns therefor.

Yours Respectfully

J. L. Pollock
Director

B. Lingley, Esq
Sec'y Manitou & Northwestern
Silver Mining Company
Milwaukie, Wis.

May 18th 2

Gents

Yours of the 16th Inst, notifying us of the shipment of $260.00 in Base Coins for redemption, and asking if we redeem 3 cent silver pieces, is received.

In reply, I enclose a Circular which will explain the only way in which silver 3 ¢ pieces can be redeemed. They must be deposited as Bullion as there is no law which provides for their redemption in any other way.

Yours Respectfully

J. A. Pollock
Director

P. A. Houck & Co
Buffalo
N. Y.

May 18. 2

Sir,

Asst Treas. Tuttle's draft No. 1953 for $2,000. on the Asst Treas. U.S. at Philadelphia, returned for his signature, has been received this morning, in your letter of the 17th inst, duly signed; and the base coins ordered in your letter of the 15th inst. will be forwarded to you by Express, on Tuesday next.

Yours Very Respectfully

J. A. Pollock
Director

Hon F. E. Spinner
Treasurer United States
Washington D.C.

May 20th 2

Sir:

Your letter of the 17th inst, notifying us of a lot of base coins sent for redemption, also inquiring at the copper cent of 1793, is received

In reply I have to state that the cent you describe was issued by the U.S. Mint under the direction of the Treasury Department.

There were three diffrent "patterns" issued in 1793

Your Respectfully

Director

Mr Frank Yaber
Salem
Columbiana Co
Ohio

May 20th 2

Sir

Your letter of 17th instant, referring to me the letter of Theo. Cromwellin of May 10th, instant, in relation to the redemption of mutilated base coins; has been received.

The Treasurer of the Mint, under the "Circular of the Treasury Department for the Redemption of Copper and other token Coins", of April 12th 1871, counts and redeems all coins, including the mutilated, that are genuine. When the coin is so mutilated that its character and denomination cannot be recognized; or so clipped or punched that its value and weight are greatly diminished, it is rejected. All counterfeits, and coins mutilated as before stated, are rejected, and this will account for the discrepancy

May 20th 2

Sir

Your letter of 17th instant, referring to me the letter of Thos. Cronmelin of May 10th instant, in relation to the redemption of mutilated base coins; has been received.

The Treasurer of the Mint, under the "Circulars of the Treasury Department for the Redemption of Copper and other token Coins", of April 12th 1851, counts and redeems all coins, including the mutilated, that are genuine. When the coin is so mutilated that its character and denomination cannot be recognized; or so chipped or punched, that its value as bullion is greatly diminished, it is rejected. All counterfeits, and coins mutilated as before stated, are rejected, and this will account for the discrepancy

(if any) referred to by Mr Commelin. The counting, selecting &c, is done with all the care possible, and mistakes do not, and cannot more easily occur. The coins enclosed in your letter are badly mutilated; but, under the rule adopted here, all but one, would have been received. The redemption of the base coinage is so completely and exclusively under the control of the Secretary of the Treasury, that his direction, in regard to the mutilated coin, when to be received and, when rejected, would be promptly complied with by those engaged in their redemption. Counterfeits are frequently mutilated to prevent detection, and therefore our Counters are the more careful, and reject all doubtful coins. This rule should not be relaxed.

The letter of Mr Commelin, with the mutilated coins, is herewith returned.

Your's Very Respectfully

Hon'ble A. Richardson
Ass't. Secy of the Treasury

Director

May 21st 2

Sir

I have the honor to acknowledge (as already intimated) the receipt of a suite of the new gold and silver coins of the Japanese Empire, with your request to have them examined and tested at this Mint. I have also received your very interesting explanations of the devices on the coins, with other replies to my inquiries.

I now take pleasure in reporting the result of examinations, made by our officers.

First, and most important of all, as to the weight, fineness and composition of the several pieces; and consequently, their fidelity to the alleged standards. Permit me to say, that to

judge of a whole coinage by the trial of a few pieces, pingly, is a severe test, and would be an un=-fair one, except as it shows with what skill and nicety the manip=-ulations are conducted.

The following table gives the results at one view.

Pieces	Standard weight. Troy Grains	Actual Weight Troy Grs	Standard Fineness Thous:	Actual Fineness Thous:
20 Yen	514.41	514.20	900	900
10 Yen not sent.				
5 Yen	128.60	128.59	900	900
2 Yen	51.44	51.81	900	900
1 Yen	25.72	26.60	900	899.6
1 Yen	416.00	415.17	900	902.5
50 Sen	193.00	192.44	800	799.7
20 Sen	77.20	81.44	800	799.7
10 Sen	38.60	37.61	800	798.5
5 Sen	19.30	20.02	800	798.7

The foregoing results,

as to weight, are satisfactory, except in two or three instances, which may be considered accidental. As to the fineness, the gold coins are admir=ably exact, as much so as can be found in any coinage in the World. The same may be said of the silver coins, except the largest, the 1 Yen, which is somewhat too high.

In composition, the gold coins are nearly uniform, consisting of 900 parts gold
90 parts copper
10 parts silver
1000, with slight variation.

If a comparison of value, with our own coin, is desired, this must be made upon the stand=ards, and not on the results of these single assays. I will therefore say, that the 20 Yen gold piece, is worth

$19.93.84, making no Mint deduction; and the smaller pieces in proportion. The silver 1 Yen piece is worth $1.00.85, as compared with our whole silver dollar. The silver 50 Sen piece is worth 44.67 cents, as compared with our 50 cents. The smaller pieces in proportion.

In regard to the last item, the comparison is necessarily defective, because the lesser silver coins, both Japanese and American, being only subsidiary, and of limited tender, are legally over-rated; but in different proportions. The more important comparison, by which to arrive at the amount of over-rate, or gain, requires us to enter into the difficult and unsettled question as to the relative values of gold and silver. Still, the point is so important and interesting, especially in view of our own legislation on this subject, that I must take some notice of it,

and observes, that the only way to make a fair comparison, is to go into the chief bullion market, say at London, and find at what average rate an ounce of silver can be bought, with gold. We thus find that one ounce of silver, nine-tenths fine, would be worth 120 cents in gold; or four grains for one cent. So then, your 50 Sen piece, is worth, in your gold coin, 45 Sen; while our 50 cent piece, by the same rule, is worth 48 cents. This will give an idea of the amount of coinage profit in each case. In your case it is 14 per cent; in ours, 4 per cent. The advantage of the larger percentage is very evident. In the case of a financial pressure, with-drawing your gold from circulation, the people at large will still have the benefit of a silver currency, because it will not be exported, or hidden away, as long as the premium on gold is below 14 per cent.

I need make no remarks upon

the artistic appearance and execution of your coins. They are very creditable; and the defects in the dies and coinage, noticed in the report of our Chief Coiner, can, and I have no doubt will be, easily and promptly remedied.

I enclose a copy of State=ment of our Chief Coiner, on the weight and general execution of the Coins.

I cannot forbear congrat=ulating you upon this vast improvement in your coinage; not only a great benefit to your own realm, but to the whole commercial world.

I am Sir

Yours Very Respectfully

Jas Pollock

Director

Hon G. Foukoutsi
First Secretary
Japanese Embassy
Washington D.C.

May 21st 2

Dear Sir

It gives me pleasure to enclose to you as Treasurer of the Relief Committee, my Check on the Farmers and Mechanics National Bank of Philadelphia for the sum of $205=; amount of contributions from the officers and employes of the United States Mint, in this City, in aid of the sufferers by the late destructive fire in your Boroughs. Our sympathies are with you.

Please acknowledge the receipt of this Check.

Yours Respectfully

James Pollock
Director

Michael A. Tanner Esq
Treas. Relief Com.
Somerset Pa.

May 21st 2

Sir

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 16th instant.

The Estimates of expenses for redemption and re-issuing of the minor coinage, were based upon the large amount redeemed during the first few months after the order to redeem was issued, and would not be more than sufficient if the redemption continued at the same rate; but since the date of my communication on this subject, the demand for the five and three cent nickel coin is considerably in excess of the amount offered for redemption, and the coinage will necessarily have to be continued. Moreover, there is reason to believe

that a redundancy of minor coins only existed in the large Cities, and that the re-distribution has relieved the same. A continued decline in the redemptions may therefore be expected.

In view of these facts, I am of the opinion that if the Mint is reimbursed the amount of expenses of redemption to June 30th, say $10.500, as proposed in your letter, and an appropriation of $15.000 obtained for the next fiscal year, we can get along without embarrassment.

For many reasons it is desirable that the redemption and reissue of the minor coins, should be conducted at the Mint, by the Treasurer of the Institution. There is danger of taking in counterfeit pieces, beside, but few of the depositaries would have sufficient vault room in which to store the coins. The expense of counting-boards, bags &c, would be no small item.

There is no force specifically employed at the Mint in this business. The work is performed by persons who belong to the regular

organization, and are on the pay rolls of the institution. When not engaged in work pertaining to the redemption, they perform other duties.

The appropriation asked for in my letter of the 16th ultimo, would not have increased the expenses of the institution in the least. It simply required, by specific appropriation, the redemption department to pay its own actual expenses, and would have relieved the cent coinage account to that extent; which would be equitable and proper.

The force employed is not in excess of an efficient organization, and to meet the present and probable future work.

In view of the foregoing facts, I respectfully ask you to reconsider and modify the instructions contained in your letter of the 16th instant.

Yours Very Respectfully

Wm. Pollock

Director

Hon. Geo. S. Boutwell
Secretary of the Treasury
Washington D.C.

May 22d 2

Sir

In compliance with your request of the 20th instant (J.S.K.) I herewith forward to you by the Adams Express, a complete Proof Sett of the gold, silver, bronze and nickel coins now issued by the United States; together with a list of the coins, and their denominational values.

I also enclose a receipted Bill for the same; amounting to the sum of $43 62/100, which please permit by Coin draft.

Very Respectfully Yours

Jas. Pollock
Director

Hon. W.A. Richardson
Acting Secy. Treasury
Washington D.C.

May 22d 2

Treasury Department
To
Mint of the United States Dr.

To.
One Proof Sett, of Gold, Silver and Base Coinage =

In Gold $41.50
" Silver 2.01
" Currency .11 = $43.62

Received Payment, in Coin
[signature]
Director of the Mint

May 22nd 2

Sir:

Your letter of the 21st Inst, enclosing draft No 36642 on National Park Bank for One hundred dollars to be exchanged for same amount in 1 cent pieces, has been received.

As the draft is drawn to your order, I herewith return it for your endorsement.

Please endorse it payable to the order of the Director of the U.S. Mint

Yours Respectfully

Geo. Bullock
Director

James Sanders Esq
109 State St
Schenectady
N.Y.

May 22d 2

Sir

Your card attached to Assistant Secre=
=tary Richardson's letter of the 20th instant,
asking the price of a case for a proof set
of U. S. Coins; was duly received.

A silk velvet case, with a
movable leaf, showing the obverse and
reverse of the coins, with plate glass on each
side to protect the coins and hold them
in place, the whole enclosed in an exter=
=nal case, would cost about $12.

A similar case of cotton
velvet or morocco, without the plate
glass and outside case, (and showing
both obverse and reverse) would cost
from $4. to $4.50.

Yours Very Respectfully

Jas. Pollock

Director

Hon. Jno. Jay Knox
Comptroller of the Currency
Washington D.C.

May 22d 2

Sir

Your letter of the 20th instant, has been duly received.

In answer to your inquiries as to "the cost of a gold medal, to be presented for services rendered to wrecked American Vessels, and not so large but that it could be worn on the breast"; I reply that such a medal could be made for from $25 to $30 each; in silver from $3.50 to $5.00; but, as it is necessary to have some appropriate and well executed design, to give it a value beyond its intrinsic worth, a pair of medal dies must first be engraved, which we could do here for from $250 to $300. We should want some drawing, or other explanation of the ideas of the parties ordering, and we

would carry them out, if a definite design is not sent.

We have now in the Mint, two pairs of dies of different devices, but characteristic in design, from which silver medals have been heretofore struck by order of the Government as testimonials to gallant seamen for rescuing the crews of shipwrecked vessels.

They are Size No 40, or 2 1/2 inches in diameter; too large to be worn on the breast, but well suited for a testimonial of gallant service. The cost in gold would be from $150 to $160; in silver from $10 to $15.

Yours Very Respectfully

Jas. Pollock

Director

Theodore S. Dimon Esq.
Disbursing Clerk
Department of State
Washington D.C.

May 23d 2

Sir

By the melting of the old copper cents, redeemed under the Act of March 3d 1871, there are now in the hands of the Melter and Refiner, as the product of such melting, about thirty two (32) tons of good copper, equal to the ordinary copper of commerce. The amount is greater than is required for the purposes of the Mint, in coinages or otherwise. It should now be sold, as the price in the market is advanced, and sales could, I believe, be made at fair, if not high prices.

I would recommend that this copper be returned to the Treasurer of the Mint, and that he or some other person here be authorized

to offer the same for sale, by adver=
=tisements, inviting proposals in quan=
=tities not less than five tons &c. The
proceeds to be credited to the Cent
Redemption Fund, and the loss, or
the difference between the nominal
value of the copper in cents, and the
proceeds after sale, to be charged to
profit and loss in said Redemption
Fund account. At present prices
this loss or difference would be
quite small, provided these prices
can be realized, on the sale of the
Copper.

I will be pleased to receive
your instructions in this matter.

Yours Very Respectfully

Jas Pollock
Director

Hon. Geo. S. Boutwell
Secretary of the Treasury
Washington D.C.

May 23d 72

Dear Sir

Your letter of the 20th inst, containing a design for silver badges for the Knights Templars, which you wish to have struck from dies to be prepared at the Mint; has been duly received.

The Mint has no facilities for the execution of special artistic work of this description, its functions not extending beyond the striking of coins, and the usual styles of circular medals; and the preparation of the dies therefor.

You can doubtless have your order filled to your entire satisfaction, by applying to Mess. Bailey & Co, 12th & Chestnut Sts; or Mess. Robbins, Clark & Biddle, No 1124 Chestnut St, Jewelers of this City, and both first class houses, and to them I respectfully refer you.

Yours Truly

Jas. Pollock
Director

Geo. H. Nixon Esq
St. Louis, Mo.

May 23rd 2

Sir

Your letter of the 22nd Inst, inquiring about a lot of base coins sent to the Mint for redemption, has been received.

In reply I have to say that a Keg containing Nickel coins arrived here the other day, but as there was no letter accompanying it, we could do nothing with it. It will now be counted and a statement forwarded to the Treasury Department in compliance with the enclosed circular

Your Respectfully
Jas. Pollock
Director
per J. A. P.

Mr H. H. Hoops
30 Jay St
New York

May 24th 2

Sir

Your letter of the 23d instant has been duly received.

In consequence of the suspension of operations here, in order to make our annual settlement, we have been unable to proceed with the manufacture of the silver discs, ordered by you on the 9th instant.

Work having been resumed, instructions have been given to push the making of the discs, and we hope to have them completed, and forwarded to you in about ten days.

Yours Very Respectfully

J. A. Pollock
Director

Com. A. Ludlow Case
Chief of Bureau of Ordnance
Washington D.C.

May 24th 2

Sir

Your letter of the 23d instant has been duly received.

In consequence of the suspension of operations here, in order to make our annual settlement, we have been unable to proceed with the manufacture of the silver discs, ordered by you on the 9th instant.

Work having been resumed, instructions have been given to push the making of the discs, and we hope to have them completed, and forwarded to you in about ten days.

Yours Very Respectfully

J. A. Pollock
Director

Com. A. Ludlow Case
Chief of Bureau of Ordnance
Washington D.C.

May 24th 2

Gentlemen

I enclose to you a copy of a letter dated May 23d, instant, addressed to me by Prof. Jas. C. Booth, Melter & Refiner in this Institution, and received yesterday in reference to the loss in melting of certain silver delivered by him to the Treasurer, and melted by Mr H. C. Cochran, Clerk of Treasurer, without authority &c.

The facts as stated being within the scope of your authority, as a Committee to investigate the question of wastage in the Melter & Refiner's Department; deserve examination, and are respectfully sub=mitted to you for that purpose.

Yours Very Respectfully

Jas. Pollock
Director

Dr. H. R. Linderman
Professor Rogers
Committee

May 24th 2

Gentlemen

I herewith enclose to you a copy of a letter dated May 24th 1872, from Professor Jas. C. Booth, Melter & Refiner of this Institution, in relation to the character of the bullion received from the New York Assay Office; the assays of said bullion, and the loss resulting from such character and assay.

Connected with the question of wastage in the Melter & Refiner's Department, the letter and the facts stated therein are referred to you, with request to give the subject a full and thorough examination.

Yours Very Respectfully

Jas. Pollock
Director

Dr. H. R. Linderman
Professor Rogers
Committee

May 25th 2

H. Denner
Providence R. I.

Sir

Your letter of the 23d inst, enclosing a two-cent coin, has been received.

The coin is genuine, but it is 1½ grains light, from having been cleaned with acids, and reissued from the Mint by order of the Secretary of the Treasury

Yours Respt
Jas. Pollock
Director
per J. C. B.

The coin is herewith returned to you.

May 28 2

Mr Robert Compson
Dear Sir,

The stones which you sent are nothing but common clay slate, with a little iron, and of no value.

Instead of forty pounds, as you sent, half a pound would have been enough.

Our ordinary charge is five dollars, but in this case we will make no charge.

Yours resp'y

J. D. Pollock
Director.

May 29th 2

Gents

Your letter of the 27th Inst. stating that on the 27th of April you had shipped a box of base coin to the Mint for redemption and had heard nothing of it since, has been received.

About two weeks ago we received a box of your description, in very bad condition, but as no letter accompanied it we could not count it.

Enclosed please find Circular on the subject of redemption, the provisions of which must be strictly complied with

Yours Respectfully
James Pollock
Director
per Boyd

Messrs Collett & Carr
Akron
Ohio

May 29 2

Sir,

Twenty seven (27) silver discs have been forwarded to you today by the Adams Express.

The remainder of the fifty ordered will be sent as soon as they can be prepared.

Very Respectfully

Jas. Pollock

Director

Commodore

A. Ludlow Case

Chief of the Bureau of Ordnance

Navy Department

Washington D.C.

May 31st 2

Sir

Your letter of the 29th inst, has been duly received.

The eagle, nickel cents of 1857 and 1858, are worth one cent each and no more; and the Mint does not exchange gold and silver coins for them. All the copper, nickel and bronze coins of the U. S., are redeemable in currency upon the terms of the enclosed circular, and not otherwise

Yours Respectfully

Jas. Pollock

Director

Mr John Byrne
Groveport, Ohio

May 31st 2

Sir

Your letter of the 30th inst, has been duly received.

It will be rather late for your purposes, but I give you the following names of persons with whom you can communicate.

Dr. Edward Maris, 1217 So. 5th St

J. H. Haseltine Esq, 512 Walnut St

J. C. Randall Esq, N. W. cor. 9th & Pine Sts

Officers of the Mint do not attend coin sales at a distance, and our Cabinet is so full that we only buy a piece or two at a time, and often decline large lots.

Yours Respectfully

W. Pollock
Director

E. A. Olcott Esq.
New York

May 31st 72

Dear Sir

Your letter of the 28th inst, was received during my absence at Harrisburg.

The Mint Bill, I understand, has been so modified and amended, that I am at a loss to know what to say in relation to the Estimates for Wages of Workmen for base coinage manufacture. If the old copper, bronze and copper-nickel coins are to be recoined, the amount should not, and cannot be less than the amount now expended on base coinage, and payable out of the Cent profit fund. That sum is now (and it is much smaller than at any time during the past five years) about $105.000 annually, or $8.500 per month. If, however, we use every economy, the sum might be fixed at $75.000 for the fiscal year ending July 1873 - I do not see how we could get along on less, and if that sum should not be needed, it would not be drawn, or expended. Then I say $75,000, would be, on a fair calculation, about the

amount required for wages of workmen on base coinage &c. We would also require not less than $8000 or $10.000 for incidentals, mittens, grates, coal &c &c. (You will know all about these expenditures. These appro=-priations should be made if the Bill passes and any considerable amount of base coinage is to be executed.

Again, on another subject. In consequence of the large wastage in the M. & R's Department our appropriation of $35.000, for the year ending June 30/72, for incidentals, including wastage, will be insufficient, to meet the incidentals and restore wastage by at least $6.000 or $7.000; and to meet this deficiency an appropriation should be made, if possible before the close of the Session. It is all important. Otherwise we will not be able to pay actual necessary expenses for the months of May and June, unless the Secy of the Treasury will permit the warrant to restore wastage to be suspended until a special appro-priation can be made by Congress to

meet the deficit, either at this session or the next. Will you look after this!

I hope the appropriations for the recoinage of the gold coin etc, will pass. We need all the work we can get. Do not let them cut down the salaries.

Yours Very Truly

J. A. Pollock

Director

Dr H R Linderman
Washington D.C.

May 31st 2

Sir

Enclosed I forward statement of the amount and kind of each denomination of base coins redeemed at the Mint during the month of May 1872, under the Act of March 3d 1871; as also the amount previously redeemed, and the total amount redeemed.

Very Respectfully Yours

Jas Pollock
Director

Hon Geo. S. Boutwell
Secretary of the Treasury
Washington D.C.

June 1st 72

Sir

Your letter of May 29th, has been received this morning.

I regret to say that I cannot furnish you the desired ten-dollar planchet, or blank, from which you could have a gold medal struck for the "best shot" in your Battery. Such a proceeding would be without authority of law, and contrary to the established policy of the Mint.

The Mint will, however, strike a gold medal for you, if you will furnish dies for the purpose; or we can strikes a medal from some of the miscellaneous dies we have on hands, and on which you could have any inscription engraved that you may desire. For instance, we have dies for a medal with a very fine head of Washington on one side, and the other side blank, to receive any inscription that you may consider suitable for your purpose. The cost of

such a medal would be fifteen ($15) dollars, in currency, and the additional expense of engraving the inscription would be from two to three cents per letter, according to styles. There will, of course, be a raised edge or border around the medal, on both sides.

Your order for the medal, if you conclude to have one struck, should be addressed to me, accompanied by a remittance, which can be by draft, postal order, or registered letter, as you may prefer, but at your own risk. The medal will be forwarded to you, at your risk, by express, or registered letter, as you may direct. If by mail, the postage will be fifteen cents.

Yours Respectfully

J. W. Powell

Director

Lt. Col. Loomis L. Langdon, U.S.A.

Plattsburg

New York

June 3. 2

Sir,

Your letter of the 1st inst. has been duly received.

The Mint will receive your damaged gold and silver coin on the terms of the enclosed circulars. You can direct "U.S. Mint, Philadelphia, Pa." The Adams Express Company have an office and Agent in the Mint building, and take charge of such deposits as may be entrusted to them.

Yours Respectfully

J.W. Pollock

Director

Mr Joseph Reidy
Delphos
Allen Co. Ohio

June 3rd 2

Gents.

Your letter of the 31st of May, notifying us of a Shipment of base coin for redemption, and also Stating that you had been docked on the last Shipment to the amount of $1.02, has been received.

In reply I enclose a duplicate official statement of the count of the lot of coins you speak of, with the information that as our counting is done on a counting board, it is impossible for us to make a mistake.

Your Respectfully
[illegible]
Director

Moyer Brothers
Bloomsburg
Pa

June 4th 72

Sir

Enclosed I forward statement of Deposits and Coinage at the Mint of the United States Philadelphia, during the month of May 1872.

Very Respectfully Yours

Jas. P. Kimball
Director

Hon Geo. S. Boutwell
Secretary of the Treasury
Washington D.C.

June 1st 2

Sir

At the close of business on the 31st ultimo, I made the usual monthly count and examination of the monies in the hands of the Treasurer of the Mint, with the following result, viz;

Gold	$409.767.18
Silver	87.277.22
Ordinary Account	76.372.66
Cent Coinage A/c	102.768.03
San Francisco Br. Mint	985.37
Denver " "	111.23
Charlotte " "	200.00
Carson City " "	268.50
Base Coins redeemed	198.440.69
Total =	$876.190.88

which corresponds with his Books.

I also made examination into the general condition and

operations of the Mint; and the institution was found to be in good working order, and its business conducted in a careful and satisfactory manner.

Very Respectfully Yours

Jas Pollock

Director

Hon. Geo. S. Boutwell

Secretary of the Treasury

Washington D.C.

June 5th 2

Sir

I send you to day by the Adams Express, twenty three (23) silver discs, which, with twenty seven (27) forwarded to you by Express, May 29th, completes your order of May 9th, for fifty (50) discs.

The bill for the same, amounting to $449.42 coin, I herewith enclose; and desire that payment may be made at your early convenience, as heretofore. There is a slight advance in the amount, but no more than is necessary to protect the Mint against loss.

Yours Very Respectfully

A. E. Potter

Director.

Com. A. Ludlow Case
Chief of Bureau of Ordnance
Washington D.C.

June 5th 2

Commodore A. Ludlow Case
Chief of the Bureau of Ordnance
Navy Department
Washington D.C.

To the U.S. Mint, Dr.

For 50 Silver discs, 999/1000 fine, as follows, viz; Weight	301.95 ozs.	
Add 4/1000 (.004) loss in making	1.21	
Total	303.16 ozs	
@ $1.40, coin per oz		$424.42
Turning 50 discs at 50 cts. each		25 —
Total		$449.42

Received Payment in coin.

[signature]
Director of the Mint

June 7. 2

Received of Hon James Pollock, Director of the Mint, Forty three $\frac{62}{100}$ Dollars, in coin, in full for one Gold, Silver, and Base Coinage proof-sett, received from me, and forwarded by him, to the Hon. Wm A. Richardson, acting Secretary of the Treasury, on the 22d of May, 1872.

$42.62, Coin.

A. Loudon Snowden
Chief Coiner
U. S. Mint

June 7th 2

Sir

The Gold "Shipwreck" Medal, ordered by you on the 28th of May, is now ready. Will you please write us in whose name the bill is to be made, and the exact address to which it is to be sent.

The price will be $150.00 in gold.

Yours Respectfully

Jas. Pollock

Director

Thos. H. Dimon Esq
Disbursing Clerk
Department of State
Washington
D.C.

June 7th 2

Sir

I have this morning received your letter of the 6th instant, enclosing triplicate approved bills for $449.42, payable by Paymaster Hieskell at Philadelphia, for fifty (50) silver discs sent to you by Express

Very Respectfully Yours

Jas. Powell
Director

Rear Admiral
A. Ludlow Case
Chief of Bureau of Ordnance
Navy Department
Washington D.C.

June 8th 2

Sir:

Your Telegram of the 7th Inst is just received, and in reply I have to say that the Medal has been Struck and will be held subject to your order.

Yours Respectfully

Jas Pollock
Director

Rev N. C. Brooks
Baltimore
Md

Return after 3 days to

Mint of the United States

Wm E. DuBois Esq

~~Lenape House~~

~~Delaware Water Gap~~

Forwarded Shea

Pennsylvania.

$$\begin{array}{r} 854 \\ 248 \\ \hline 606 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 377 \\ 45 \\ \hline 332 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 300 \\ 37 \\ \hline 263 \end{array}$$

June 12th 72

Dear Sir

Your telegram of the 11th inst, was received yesterday after business hours; and your letter of same date was received this morning.

The dimes to which you refer had left the Mint for the New York Assay office before your telegram was received. It could not, however, under the circumstances, have directed otherwise. The delay in making returns to you arises, as you already know, from the base silver bullion deposited, and which could only be received under the special contract made with you. In pursuance of that arrangement, a portion of your bullion has been operated upon by our best methods to ascertain the actual wastage, and the cost of refining or, to make it fit for coinage. The Melter & Refiner has so far concluded his operations, as to enable

us to arrive at the following results.

The deduction to be made for necessary wastage is one per cent. of the gross weight; and the charge for refining will be two cents per oz. as per agreement.

Should further operations demonstrate that the deduction for wastage can, with safety to the Government, be reduced, you will be informed of the fact.

I trust that the above will prove satisfactory to you, and that no unusual delay will hereafter occur in operating upon and making returns for your bullion.

Yours Respectfully

J. E. Colhoun

Director

Parker Handy Esq.
24 Nassau St.
New York

June 14th 2

Sir

Your letter of the 8th inst, complaining of an Express charge of 75 cents on $50 of base coins sent you from the Mint, in May last, has been received.

It was an improper charge, and I herewith enclose you a refunding order for the amount, from the Agent of the Adams Express Company in this City.

Yours Respectfully

J. A. Pollock

Director

H. N. Chester, Esq, Cashier

Lawrence, Kansas

June 14th 2

Dr. Sir

Your letter of 10th inst, has been duly received.

The Mint charges for assaying ores is $5 for every sample tried. If you will forward about a pound of your ore and five dollars, we will assay it, and report the result to you at once.

Yours Respectfully

A. Pollock
Director

Mr James L. Sneed
Clerk Ky. Penitentiary
Frankfort, Ky.

June 17th 2

Sir:

Permit me to call your attention to my letter of the 8th Inst, in which I informed you that the medal ordered had been struck and would be held subject to your order.

As the Medal is of no possible use to us, and the Medal Fund is charged with the value of the gold used in making the same, you will greatly oblige us by giving your instructions in regard to it

Yours Respectfully

Director

Rev N. C. Brooks
Baltimore
Md

June 17th 2

Sir

Your letter (C. F. C.) of the 14th instant, enclosing fifteen blanks Branch Mint requisitions of a new style; has been received this morning.

I infer from the tenor of your letter, that they are for the use of this, the parent Mint, with the word "Branch" stricken out. If I am in error you will please correct me.

Have these blanks been furnished to the respective Branch Mints and Assay Offices? If they are to be supplied through me, it will require a larger number that you have sent.

Yours Very Respectfully

A. R. Pollock
Director

Hon J. F. Hartley
Asst. Secy of the Treasury

June 19th 2

Sir

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 17th instant, directing the discontinuance of the receipt, by the Mint, of silver bars containing base metals.

As the subject of the wastage incurred in refining this class of bullion, and other important questions, are now undergoing investigation by the Commission appointed by you for that purpose, I most earnestly urge that you will modify these instructions so as to allow us to continue to receive these deposits, at least until the Commissioners shall have concluded their labors, after which I shall have the honor of submitting my views at length on this subject. The law, undoubtedly authori-

=izes the receipt of this description of bullion, and, ample care being taken to protect the Government against loss on refining, and the deductions for the purpose being fully satisfactory to the depositor, no possible harm can result from receiving and operating on such bullion. The "General Instructions" and the practice of the Mint for many years, accord with my views on this subject, and all the experienced operative officers here concur therein.

It would manifestly work to the serious injury of this institution to place any restrictions on it not applicable to the Assay office in New York. I shall not however go fully into the subject at this time, reserving details for a subsequent communication; but would again most respectfully and earnestly urge a

modification of your instructions.

After the Wastage Commission shall have concluded its investigations, we shall be better prepared to make a uniform rule in relation to this class of bullion, applicables to both the Mint and the Assay offices at New York.

Yours Very Respectfully

[signature]

Director

Hon. W. A. Richardson

Acting Secretary Treasury

Washington D.C.

June 19th 2

Sir

Your letter (J.J.K) of the 17th instant, referring to a letter from the Treasurer of the Mint of the 31st ultimo, stating that the counting and bagging of the redeemed minor coins had not been completed as requested in your letter of the 26th of February last, has been received.

I know not what statements the Treasurer has made, or to whom he has attributed the delay, but I can only say, in answer to your letter, that every facility that was in the power of the Director or the capacity of the Mint building, has been afforded him and his subordinates for the purpose of counting &c. Among other things, I caused to be erected in the area of the Mint building, a frame house to be used exclusive-

=ly for the purposes,- furnished
every man that could be employed;
had made counting boxes and
boards in addition to those already
on hand, and in every way practica=
=ble aided the redemption of these
coins. The trouble is not want of men,
but want of room in the building.
There is no spot unoccupied in
which we can place more men or
counting boards or boxes. Yesterday
in company with the Treasurer's
Chief Clerk, who has charge of the
redemption office, I endeavored
to find some suitable place, but
could not. I have urged the
Chief Clerk to use every possible
effort to count the redeemed
coins; offered him every assistance
in my power to give, in men, count=
=ing boards &c; I have done all
that can be done in the premises.

Let the Treasurer do his duty as faithfully, and he will have no cause to complain.

Yours Very Respectfully

H. R. Pollock

Director

Hon. W. A. Richardson

Act'g. Secretary Treasury

Washington D.C.

June 20th 2

Sir

In reply to that portion of your letter (J.J.K) of the 17th instant, which refers to a letter addressed to H. S. Cochran, Treasurers Clerk, and saying that all official letters should be addressed to the Treas=urer himself; I have only to say, that as the Treasurer is constantly absent from this institution, and has not, so far as the Director is informed, designated any one of his clerks to act for him, as he is authorized to do by the 13th Section of the Act of March 3d 1863; I addres=ed the letter referred to, to H. S. Cochran, the principal clerk in the Deposit Room, to facilitate business, and avoid delay. Under

the circumstances, and as both are subject to the orders of the Director, no official rule or courtesy was violated.

Yours Very Respectfully

Jas. Pollock

Director

Hon Wm. A. Richardson
Acting Secretary Treasury
Washington D.C.

June 20th 2

Sir

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter (J.S.K) of the 17th instant, in relation to the proposition contained in my letter of the 28th of May, ultimo, to sell the copper produced from the melting of the old copper cents &c.

Although I have no control over the base coins redeemed, or the copper produced from the melting of the old copper cents, yet I deemed it proper, under all the circumstances of the case, to suggest the propriety of selling such copper, believing that the best interests of the Government will be thereby promoted. The ruling price of copper for some months has been very high, in consequence of

of strikes and other causes. This inflation could not continue, and copper sold at the time of my advice in a letter, and for some weeks subsequent one now could have been replaced, when needed, at a greatly reduced price. I do not urge the sale; nor have I any other suggestions to make in that direction.

In answer to your request for information as to the amount of copper on hand (excluding of the cent melted copper) I have to report that the amount of Minnesota copper for alloying the gold and silver coins, is about two and a-half (2½) tons. Copper for base coinage about five (5) to 6, in combination with nickel. The old cent copper could not be safely used for alloying the gold and silver coinages. That require the purest

and best copper. It could be used in our base coinage; and probably during the next year five or six tons could be so used, - possibly more; the quantity depending entirely upon the amount of base coinage executed.

Yours Very Respectfully

Jas Pollock

Director

Hon'l Wm A. Richardson

Acting Secretary Treasury

Washington D.C.

June 20 2

Dear Sir

In reply to your letter of the 18th inst, I have to state that I cannot furnish you two hundred silver dollars in exchange for a gold draft.

The Mint executes coinage for depositors of bullion upon the terms of the two enclosed circulars, and upon no other.

Yours Truly
Jas. Pollock
Director
by J.C.P.

M. Bernstein Esq
Detroit, Mich

June 21 2

Dear Sir,

Your metallic specimen has been examined in our Assay Office, and is found to be iron. This you might have concluded, by simply applying a magnet. – But as nickel also has magnetic attraction, we proceeded to ascertain, that it was not that metal; and further, that it contained no precious metals.

This being a less operation than usual, we charge two dollars, and return three to you.

Respectfully yours
Jas Pollock
Director
Mint.

Jas. L. Snead, Esq.
Kentucky Penitentiary
Lexington, Ky.

June 22 2

Received from Hon. James Pollock, Director of the Mint, Four Hundred and twenty four, 42/100 Dollars ($424.42) in Silver Coin, in full for fifty (50) Silver disks 999½ fine (weighing 303.16 ozs, @ $1.40 coin, per oz.) prepared for the Ordnance Bureau of the Navy Department, Washington D.C. as per bill rendered by the Chief of that Bureau, & the Director, on the 5th inst.

Ja$ C Booth
M. & R.

June 24th 2

Sir

I have received by Express the
sett of new Japanese Coins, gold and
silver, specified in your letter (W.K) of
the 20th instant, which have been pre-
-sented by the Japanese Embassy
through the Secretary of the Treasury,
to the Cabinet of the Mint.

They will be duly placed in
the Cabinet, side by side, with our
specimens of the old style of Japanese
gold and silver coins now there, so
that visitors can readily make com-
-parison, and note the great improvement
made in the coinages of that oriental
Empire.

Yours Very Respectfully

Hon W. A. Richardson
Act'g Secy Treasury.

Director

June 24th 2

Sir

At your earliest convenience please send me copies of all the appropriations made at the late session of Congress for support of the Mint and Branches.

Also please forward a copy to each of the Branch Mints and Assay offices for their information and guidance.

Yours Very Respectfully

Jas. Pollock
Director

Hon. Geo. S. Boutwell
Secretary of the Treasury
Washington D. C.

June 25 2

Sir,

Although these small lots of gold give us more trouble than large ones, I have had yours (enclosed in a letter) melted and assayed, and it is worth $7.25 (seven dollars 25 cents.) in gold.

As we do not pay out paper money, and do not send gold in a letter, you will have to provide some way by which you can get this money.

Yours &c.
James Pollock
Director
per J.B.P.

Mr. Thomas Scully
Minersville
Pa

June 26th 2

Gentlemen

Your letter of the 24th instant, requesting me to retain six of the large pigs of Parker Handy's silver bullion; or, in case they have been melted, an equivalent weight of the bars resulting from such melting, has been duly received.

The pigs referred to have been melted; but, in accordance with your request, I have directed the Treasurer's Clerk to retain an equivalent weight of the bars for your further official investigation.

Yours Very Respectfully

Director

Dr H. R Linderman
Prof. A. E. Rogers
Commissioners on Wastage
(now at) New York

June 26th 2

Sir

Your letter of the 24th instant, inquiring about a deficiency in the value of the last American medal sent you, has been duly received.

I referred your letter to Mr Snowden, the Chief Coiner of the Mint, under whose immediate direction the medal was prepared; and enclosed I herewith forward his reply, from which it appears that the wrong medal was sent you, an inadvertence that will be corrected immediately upon the return of the medal you received.

I trust you will find

the Chief Coiner's further ex=
=planations of the value of the
proper medal, satisfactory.

Yours Respectfully

J.R. Snowden
Director

E. Champlin Esq.
Chm. sub Board Trustees Pub. Schools
Washington D.C.

June 27 2

Sir,

The name of Dr Woodruff is not found among our assays of ores, for some years back.

We examine ores for gold and silver only; and the charge is five dollars, currency, for each assay.

A sufficient sample, if it is a fair one, need not be more than two or three ounces, and it can be sent by mail, in a cloth-lined envelope.

I must forewarn you, that if your ore is from any part of your State (New York) there is no reason to expect gold or silver.

Yours resp'y
Jas. Pollock
Director
per H.C.H.

Mr Wellington Cleveland
Camden
Oneida Co.
New York

June 28th 2

Sir

Your letter of the 27th instant, enclosing transfer Check to my order for $2000, on the Assistant Treasurer U.S. at Philadelphia, and requesting me to forward that amount in five cent and one cent nickel coins; has been received.

The coin will be for=
=warded to you by Express, tomorrow.

Yours Very Respectfully

J. W. Pollock
Director

Hon F. E. Spinner
Treasurer of the U. S.
Washington D.C.

June 28th 2

Sir

The $211 in gold coin, "light weight and sweated", specified in your letter of the 13th inst, was duly received by Express: and, having been received, as directed, produced the nett sum of $200 29/100 in coin; for which amount I herewith enclose duplicate Certificates of deposit in your name, from the Assistant Treasurer U. S. in this City, on ap of transfer of funds. The deposit for re-coinage, was made in the name of my Clerk, H. C. Hickok, and the memorandum of the deposit is also enclosed.

Yours Respectfully

Jas Pollock

Director

Wm Miller Esq.
U. S. Depositary
Mobile, Alabama

June 29. 2

J. C. Hechtener
Howard House
Detroit, Mich.

~~[illegible]~~ Will coin silver dollars for you if you deposit bullion, but keep none for sale. See circular by mail.

Jas. Pollock
Director of the Mint

(Collect)

June 29th 42

Sir

Professor Booth, Melter & Refiner, has informed me that he will be absent for three weeks from Monday next.

You are hereby notified that I have, as authorized by law, appointed you to act for him during his absence.

Yours Respectfully

Jas. Pollock
Director

N. B. Boyd Esq.
M & R's office
U. S. Mint

July 1st 2

Sir

Enclosed I forward statement of the amount and kind of each denomination of base coins redeemed at the Mint during the month of June 1872, under the Act of March 3rd 1871; as also the amount previously redeemed; and the total amount redeemed.

Yours Very Respectfully

Director

Hon Geo. S. Boutwell
Secretary of the Treasury
Washington D.C.

July 1st 2

Sir

Enclosed I forward my requisi=
=tion for the first quarter of the
current fiscal year, for the sum
of $50.875, out of the appropriation
for the support of the Mint of the
United States for the fiscal year
ending June 30th 1873; and respect=
=fully request that a draft for
the amount be forwarded to the
Treasurer of the Mint at your
earliest convenience.

Yours Very Respectfully

A. Patterson

Director

Hon Geo. S. Boutwell
Secretary of the Treasury
Washington D.C.

Philadelphia
July 1. 2

Geo. S. Boutwell

Philadelphia, Pa
Fifty thousand, Eight hundred
and seventy four Dollars
Sept 30 1872

1872-3

Jas. Pollock
Director of the Mint

Philadelphia		9 475 00
do		31 250 00
do		8 750 00
Specimens of Ores & Coins,	do	150 00
Freight on Bullion	do	1 250 00

July 1 2

Dear Sir

In reply to yours of June 26, we examine ores, to see if they contain gold or silver, and in what proportion; at a charge of five dollars in currency for each assay.

I must forewarn you that the regions you speak of, are not favorable for the discovery of silver ores.

We do not work ores on the large scale.

Any sample you may send, need not weigh more than two ounces (provided it is a fair sample) and can be sent by mail, in a cloth-lined envelope.

Respectfully yours
J. A. Pollock
Director

J. J. Campbell, Esq
Johnson's City
Tenn

July 1st 2

Sir

At the close of business on the 29th ultimo, I made the usual monthly count and examination of the monies in the hands of the Treasurer of the Mint, with the following result; viz.

Gold	$382,435.10
Silver	81,050.79
Ordinary Account	60,397.37
Cent Coinage Ac	148.684.70
San Francisco Br. Mint	985.37
Denver " "	.05
Charlotte " "	200.00
Carson City " "	163.35
Base Coins redeemed	194.751.67
Total	$868.668.40

which corresponds with his Books.

Dalss made examination

into the general condition and operations of the Mint, and the institution was found to be in good working order, and its business conducted in a careful and satisfactory manner.

Yours Very Respectfully

J. W. Pollock
Director

Hon. Geo. S. Boutwell
Secretary of the Treasury
Washington D.C.

July 1st 2

Sir:

You will please transfer from the Base Coinage Redemption Fund to the Melter & Refiner, Seven thousand, seven hundred and twenty three 56/100 ($7723 56/100) dollars in Old Copper cents for melting, this order to cover all transfers made to date.

By direction of the Secretary of the Treasury in his letter of June 3d 1870 to the Director of the Mint.

Very Respectfully

A. Elliott

Director.

Geo. Eyster. Esq.
Treas. U.S. Mint
Philadelphia

July 5th 21

Sir

Your of the 3rd Inst, notifying us of the Shipment of one keg copper-nickel cents, said to contain $128.85, to be exchanged for Nickel 5 ¢ pieces, has been received.

The Mint does not make exchanges of that kind, but redeems base coin when the provisions of the enclosed circular are complied with

Your Respectfully
James Pollock
Director
per Vogel

Geo Huguenin Esq P.M.
Oswego
N.Y.

July 9 2

Sir,

Your three specimens are sand with specks of mica and sulphuret of iron, and of no value.

Yours &c.
J. S. Pollock
Director.

P. S. I return the dollar you sent.

A. J. Robb
Marion
Ohio

July 9th 72

Sir

Enclosed I forward the usual list of the officers and clerks of the Mint, with their places of birth, where appointed from, and the amount of compensations. This is the list that has been annually forwarded to the Department, and embraces all that has hitherto been called for, and I suppose, fills the requirements of your printed circular dated June 18th 1872.

Besides these there are employed in the Mint 235 men and women as workmen, laborers, watchmen and adjusters, who hold their places at the will of the Director, exclusively, and amongst whom frequent changes take place.

Their names, where born, and appoint-
-ed from &c, have not heretofore been
required, or included in the report
annually submitted, and I suppose
do not come within the provisions
of your pointed request.

If, however, I labor
under a mistake on this point,
I will ascertain the facts in
each case and forward a list
accordingly.

Very Respectfully Yours

J. A. Poyer
Director

Hon Geo. S. Boutwell
Secretary of the Treasury
Washington D.C.

List of Officers and Agents, employed the first day of July 1872; with the State and the amount of compensation allowed

Name	Position	Where born
James Pollock	Director	Pennsylvania
George Eyster	Treasurer	do
Jacob R. Eckfeldt	Assayer	do
James C. Booth	Melter & Refiner	do
A. Louden Snowden	Chief Coiner	do
William E. Barber	Engraver	England
William E. Dubois	Assistant Assayer	Pennsylvania
Mark H. Cobb	Cashier	Connecticut
Henry C. Hickok	Director's Clerk	New York
James C. Eyster	Treasurer's Clerk	Pennsylvania
Martin V. Davis	Asst. to Chief Coiner	do
Henry S. Cochran	Weigh Clerk	do
John S. Jungren	Calculating Clerk	do
E. K. Cowperthwait	Assistant	do
Oliver B. Jones	Warrant Clerk	do

Mint of the United States
Philadelphia July 9th 1872.

, in the Mint of the United States or
e or Country where born or appointed from,
to each

where appointed from	Amount of Compensation
Pennsylvania	$4.500
do	3.500
do	3.000
do	3.000
do	3.000
do	3.000
do	2.500
do	2.500
do	2.000
do	2.000
do	2.000
do	2.000
do	1.800
do	1.800
do	1.800

Director of U.S. Mint

July 9 2

Sir,

We have examined your mineral specimens, and have to reply, that

Nos. 1 and 2 are precisely of the same character, good specimens of sulphuret of iron, and of no value.

No. 3 and 4 are somewhat different on account of the presence of carbonate of lime, but the metallic specks are also sulphuret of iron, or pyrites, and of no value.

Respectfully yours

J. A. Cossack
Chemist

Mr Thos. O. Staton
Kanawha, Wood Co.
West Virginia

July 9th 2

Sir

In reply to your inquiries of the 6th instant (S.T.K) in regard to the coinage of ten to fifteen millions of U.S. Gold coins, I have to say,

First, that while our capacity for making and assaying gold ingots, without interfering with other work, is larger than you are likely to employ, yet the present coinage of silver seems to limit the working of gold to about one million of dollars per month.

The Department will suit its own convenience as to the amounts transmitted to us.

If we had no silver to work, we could easily deliver $3,000,000. per month to the Treasurer,

or a larger amount if required. The adjusters could adjust, working on gold alone, $150.000 a day, or about $900.000 a week.

Our bullion fund is $377,000, in gold coin, of which $355,000 is in double-eagles, and of the latter amount we cannot safely pay out more than $250.000 at one time.

The Express charges under our contract with the Adams Express Company for the transportation of gold coin and bullion from New York to Philadelphia and return, ~~will be~~ is fifty cents, in coin, per $1000, each way.

Very Respectfully Yours

Jas. Pollock
Director

Hon Geo. S. Boutwell
Secretary of the Treasury
Washington D.C.

P.S. The Exp's thing contracts with the Adams Express Company was made with the Secretary of the Treasury about two years
S.P. Dir

July 10. 2

Sir,

The sixty silver discs mentioned in your letter of the 8th inst. have been duly received by Express, and will be accounted for in the settlement of your orders for fifty new discs, which latter will be forwarded to you as soon as they can be made.

Very Respectfully Yours

Jas. Pollock
Director

Daniel Ammen, Esq
for Chief of the Bureau of Ordnance
Navy Department
Washington D.C.

July 10. 2

Sir,

Yours of the 8th inst. has been received. In reply to your inquiry I have to state that the obverse of our two-cent copper coin is the side containing the shield. A shield or escutcheon generally occupies the reverse side of a coin; but a wreath enclosing a name or value always does. So where we have a shield on one side, and the value on the other, (which is not uncommon on copper coins) the shield becomes the obverse, and the value the reverse.

Yours Respectfully

J. A. Pollock
Director

Mr. Thos. W. Brownell,
Boston, Mass.

July 10. 2

Dear Sir

Please prepare at your earliest convenience, fifty (50) silver discs, for the Ordnance Bureau of the Navy Department, Washington D.C. identical in all respects with those heretofore made for that Bureau.

Yours Truly

Jas. Pollock
Director

To
Prof. Jas. C. Booth
M. & R.
U. S. Mint

July 12 2

Sir,

I send you, today, by the Adams Express, twenty five (25) silver discs, in part of your order of the 8th inst. for fifty discs.

Very Respectfully

J. W. Pollock
Director

Daniel Ammen, Esq
for Chief of Bureau of Ordnance
Navy Department
Washington D.C.

July 12th 2

Sir

The nickel coin you sent (herewith returned) is no doubt genuine, but its lightness, by nine grains, is not easily accounted for.

It may have been blackened by heat, after leaving the Mint, and the surface restored by acid, which would remove the oxidised metal and lessen the weight.

Or it may have been accidently cut from the point of a strip, by our workmen; the point being thinner than the body of the strip. This would also account for the deficiency in weight.

Very Respectfully

Jas. Pollock
Director

Chas N. Shute Esq
Acting Asst Treasurer U.S.
New Orleans
La

July 13 2

Dear Sir

The second melted lump sent by you was examined, but the pressure of Mint business kept us from reply.

It is simply copper with a little tin, very similar in composition to our bronze cent. Probably it was made out of that very material, unless you know to the contrary.

This intimation may help to put you on your guard against imposition.

(#3.00 rec?) Yours reply

Jas. Pollock
Director

Jas. S. Swan Esq
Frankfort
Ky

July 15. 2

Sir,

As directed by the Secretary of the Treasury, in his letter of the 12th inst. you will please deliver to the bearer of this draft, to be sold by him, the copper remaining in your hands (32 tons more or less) the product of the melting of the old copper cents redeemed under the Act of March 3. 1873.

Very Respectfully

Jas. Pollock

Director

To

Prof. Jas. C. Booth

Melter & Refiner

U. S. Mint

July 16th 2

Sir:

Yours of the 15th Inst, inquiring about nickel and copper coin ordered on the 29th ult, has been received, and in reply I would inform you that the coin was forwarded to your address on the 15th Inst, per Adams Express Co.
It would have been shipped before, but we were not able to furnish the 3 pieces.

Yours Respectfully

Director

L. M. Price Esq
Cash. Merchants Nat. Bank
Newark
N. J.

July 16. 2

Sir

Yours of the 13th is at hand.

The Mint will strike gold and silver coins for deposition of bullion, on the terms of the two circulars which I send you under a separate envelope; but does not keep such coins for sale, except proof-sets of the current year.

A silver dollar is worth nearly eight cents, in silver, more than two pulses or four quarters; being made that much heavier for the India and China trade. The premium on gold and silver coin fluctuates from day to day. Any banker or broker in your city can tell you how it stands on the day you enquire.

Yours, Respectfully

Jas. Pollock
Director

M. J. R. N. Hennessey
St Louis, Mo.

July 17. 2

Sir,

Your letter (S.S.K.) of the 12th inst. requesting the copper (about 32 tons) produced by the melting of the old copper cents redeemed under the Act of March 3. 1871, to be returned to the Treasurer of the Mint for sale, has been received. In compliance with your request, I have directed the Melter & Refiner, in whose possession the copper is, to return the same to the Treasurer for sale, subject to your instructions.

The price of copper has declined three or four cents per pound since my letter of the 23rd of May last.

Yours Very Respectfully

J. A. Pollock
Director

Hon Geo. S. Boutwell
Secretary of the Treasury

July 20th 2

Sir

Yours of the 17th Inst, inquiring about small coin, ordered by you on the 2nd Inst, has been received, and in reply I have to inform you that the coin was shipped to your address on the 16th Inst, per Adams Express Co.

The cause of the delay was not having sufficient small coin on hand.

Yours Respectfully
James Pollock
Director
per Vogel

C. F. W. Junge Esq
Treas Chicago Savgs Inst & Trust Co
Chicago
Ill

July 22nd 42

Sir

Yours of the 18th Inst, stating that about three or four weeks since you had sent a One Dollar Note to pay for a Gold 50 ℔ piece and a Gold 25 ℔ piece, has been received.

In reply I have to inform you, first, that no such letter has ever been received at the Mint, and secondly, that the Mint does not, and never did, coin any gold piece of a less denomination than one dollar

Your Respectfully

Jas Pollock
Director

A. M. Carr Esq
52 Jefferson st
Louisville Ky

July 23d 2

Sir

Your letter of the 19th inst, received.

The change suggested of Messrs. Lungren & Kirk to the Medal Room, is not only impracti=cable, but would be improper. The Medal Room, is so constantly oc=cupied, not only by the regular as=sistants, but by numerous parties on business, that to place two such important clerks as Lungren and Kirk, upon the accuracy of whose calculations the Government and Depositor are so wholly dependent, in such room, in which there is almost constant bustle, would not only disturb the quiet necessary for their calculations, but subject them to vexatious interruptions dange=

ous to the accuracy required in the performance of their duties. The suggestion was made without due knowledge or reflection. There is no other room to which they could be changed with due regard to the interests of the Institution.

In any of the three rooms generally assigned to the Treasurer of the Mint and his Clerks, there can be found as many, and more facilities for him in the transaction of his business as in the rooms of the Melter & Refiner and Chief Coiner for theirs, and that without interfering with the present excellent arrangement of the Clerks. The scarcity of rooms in the Mint building requires economy, and, ofttimes crowding in their use.

Yours Respy

J. P. Pollock

Director

To the
Treas. U. S. Mint

July 23rd 2

Sir

Your letter of the 20th Inst. in which you say that "on the first of July you wrote a letter concerning some money to the amount of $7.25, which you wished to have sent by Express", has ban received.

As we never received the letter you speak of and have no knowledge of any money belonging to you, you will oblige us by writing at once and giving more definite information concerning it.

Your Respectfully
Jas Fuller
Director

Thos Scully Esq
Minersville
Pa

July 23d 2

Sir

In order to facilitate matters and avoid loss to the Government by a second melting in the Melter & Refiner's department of the Mint, I desire you to melt the light gold coin ordered to be received by the Secretary of the Treasury, into ingots, and in that condition deliver it to the Melter & Refiner, so that he may be charged only with the weight after melting, and the Government credited accordingly.

I also request you to receive again the gold dollars delivered to the Melter & Refiner on the 18th inst; melt them into ingots, and re-deliver the same

to the Melter & Refiner in accordance with the tenor of the request foregoing.

Yours Respy.

J. W. Pollock

Director

To the

Treasurer of the Mint

Philadelphia

July 25th 2

Sir

Referring to your letter of June 3d 1872 (R. & P) enclosing "the correspondence between your office and the Superintendent of the U. S. Branch Mint San Francisco, relative to the principle adopted by the Assayer of that Branch reporting fine gold bars deposited by L. A. Garnett, Manager of the "San Francisco Assaying and Refining Works", to the one ten thousandth, while all other deposits are reported to the half-thousandth only"; I have to say, in reply, that the principle adopted by the Assayer of that Branch in reporting fine bars deposited, and other bullion, is undoubtedly correct, and fully

confirmed by our experience here and elsewhere.

For the purpose of fuller examination of the question submitted, I referred, after personal examination, the correspondence to our Assayers and also to the "Commission on Wastage", now here, requesting their opinion on the subject matter contained therein. After careful consideration of the subject both the Assayers and the Commission unite in sustaining the principle adopted by the Assayer at San Francisco, and for the reasons (with others) stated by him and the Superintendent.

The Assayer at San Francisco is right in saying that we cannot justly report our native or alloyed gold nearer than to the half-thousandth. The contingencies

of a well conducted assay may go to that limit; commonly as far as three-tenths.

As regards the assay of fine (or nearly fine) gold, while our beams show the tenth of a thousandth, our experience here proves that two trials of any lot of such gold may vary two tenths, although more likely to tally exactly. Our proof gold is itself proved and assured by still more absolute tests than assay. They need not be enumerated. This experience is confirmed by the British Mint.

The principal question however, is, whether the Mint shall return to the defining Company gold which assays (say) 890.3, charging them as if it were just 890, and then when it comes back refined, giving them credit not

for just 990, but for 990.3, thereby taking from the Mint, or from its Melter & Refiner, which is the same thing, the advantage of intermediate fractions, and conferring it upon the outside Refiners; - this advantage though small in individual cases, would be large when the operations are on millions.

It is true, as the Assayer at San Francisco states, we report to our Melter & Refiner to the one-tenth, to enable him to make up his ingots to the greatest accuracy, so that he need never be more than two or three tenths out of the way, except for a deficit in the metallurgy, which is still possible; and uniformity is secured by reporting with the same limit to the Treasurer for the depositor; but in settling accounts with outside Refiners they ought to

give and take in perfect parity. And the Melters and Refiners cannot be fairly and justly treated on any other basis.

This Rule of reporting the fineness of deposits does not in any way conflict with the rights of the Refining Company under their Contract with the Government. The rule of reporting the fineness of deposits is uniform in all the Mints and Branches in which refining is done, and at the Branch Mint at San Francisco it is practically and in effect the same, although the refining is done by outside parties.

As containing the views of the "Commission on Wastage" (gentlemen of experience and scientific knowledge) I enclose a copy

of their communication to me
on the subject of the correspondence.

Yours Very Respectfully

J. W. Collins
Director

Hon D. W. Mahon
First Auditor Treasury
Washington D.C.

July 24th 2

Sir

I send you today by the Adams Express, as per the enclosed duplicate receipt, the piece of gold, the proceeds of the special assay reported to you in my letter of June 25th ult; worth $7.25.

Your letter of July 1st was mislaid, which explains the delay in forwarding the package.

Yours Respy

Jas Pollock
Director

Mr Thomas Scully
Minersville
Schuylkill County
Pennsylvania

July 26th 2

Dir

Your letter of the 22nd Inst, enclosing Draft for $100.00 to be returned in base coin, also draft for $50.00 gold to be returned in 1 dollar gold pieces, has been received.

The base coin will be forwarded to your addrss in a few days free of charge.

The gold dollars will be sent as soon as dft is collected, but at your expense, by Express

It is not our custom to make exchanges of this kind but it is done in this instance as a matter of accommodation to you

Yours Respectfully

Jas Pollock
Director

Fred W. Steele Esq
Asst Cash. Citizens Bk
Marquette
Mich

July 26th 2.

Sir:

You will please transfer from the "Base Coinage Redemption Fund" to the Melter and Refiner, Two hundred and Forty two 61/100 ($242.61) Dollars in old copper cents for melting. By direction of the Secretary of the Treasury, in his letter of June 3d 1871. to the Director of the Mint.

Very Respectfully

A. Loud

Director

To.

Geo. Eyster Esq.
Treas. U.S. Mint.

July 31st 21

Sir:

I forward you this day, per Adams Express Co, Fifty Gold Dollars in compliance with your request of the 22nd Inst.

Yours, Respectfully
James Pollock
Director
per Vogt

Henry D. Smith Esq
Cash. Citizens Bank
Marquette
Mich

July 31st 2

Gentlemen

Your letter of the 29th inst, enclosing a draft for $500, in gold, and requesting 500 silver dollars in return; is based upon a misapprehension of the functions of the Mint.

The Mint will execute coinage for depositors of bullion upon the terms of the enclosed circulars, which I forward for your information and guidance; but does not keep gold or silver coin for sale, except "Proof Sets" of the current year; nor does it exchange silver for gold, or the reverse.

Your draft is herewith returned.

Yours Respectfully

Jas Pollock

Director

Messrs. Price Brothers
Cleveland
Ohio

per H C Hickok
Assistant Clerk

Aug. 1st 2

Sir

Enclosed I forward statement of the amount and kinds of each denomination of base coins redeemed at the Mint during the month of July 1872, under the Act of March 3d 1871: as also the amount previously redeemed; and the total amount redeemed.

Very Respectfully Yours

A. Loud

Director

Hon Geo. S. Boutwell
Secretary of the Treasury
Washington D.C.

Aug. 1st 2

Sir

At the close of business on the 31st ultimo, I made the usual monthly count and examination of the monies in the hands of the Treasurer of the Mint; with the following result, viz:

Gold	$333.766.94
Silver	39.928.52
Ordinary Account	92.778.94
Cent Coinage a/c	99.591.54
San Francisco Br. Mint	985.37
Denver " "	300.05
Boise City " "	100.00
Charlotte " "	200.00
Carson City " "	308.91
Base coins redeemed	200.700.86
Total	$768.661.13 =

which corresponds with his Books.

Sales made & examination

is to the general condition and operations of the Mint, and the institution was found to be in good working order, and its business conducted in a careful and satisfactory manner.

Very Respectfully Yours

Jas. Pollock

Director

Hon. Geo. S. Boutwell
Secretary of the Treasury
Washington D.C.

Aug. 2d 2

Sir

The $2,000. of base coin called for in your letter (B.G.M.) of the 29th ultimo, cannot be furnished immediately; but will be forwarded at the earliest possible moment; say in a very few days.

Very Respectfully Yours
Jas Pollock
Director

Hon F. E. Spinner
Treasurer of the U. S.
Washington D. C.

pro H C Hickok
Director's Clerk

August 3d 2

Sir

Enclosed I forward statement of Deposits and Coinage at the Mint of the United States, Philadelphia, during the month of July 1872.

Very Respectfully Yours

A. Loud

Director

Hon Geo. S. Boutwell
Secretary of the Treasury
Washington D.C.

Aug. 5th. 2

Sir

In the absence of my colleague, Dr. Linderman, I herewith forward for examination and payment, duplicate bill of Andrew Mason Esq. Melter and Refiner of the U.S. Assay office in New York, amounting to $7.50, for his expenses in coming to Philadelphia to testify before the Commissioners to examine into and report upon wastage at the Mint.

I also enclose a letter from the Superintendent of the New York Assay Office, transmitting the bill.

Yours Very Respectfully

R. E. Rogers

One of the Commissioners on Wastage

Hon Geo. S. Boutwell
Secretary of the Treasury
Washington D.C.

Aug. 6th. 2

Sir

I duly received the letter of Messrs. Cantoni and Baring, of New York, addressed to you under date of July 23d, and referred to me for answer; complaining of tardiness in the delivery of half-dimes by the Assay Office at New York.

In reply I enclose a copy of a statement, furnished to me by the Cashier of the Treasurer of the Mint, of the deposits of silver for half-dimes by the Assay Office in June and July, and the returns made.

From a comparison of dates, I presume the memorandum of these Bankers was payable out of the half-dimes forwarded to

the Assay Office on the First of August, instant; and that it has been paid before this time.

I have mailed to Messrs. Carloni and Barling a copy of the Cashier's letters; and herewith return their letter of July 23d, ultimo. The Mint has not been in fault.

Very Respectfully Yours

J. A. Pollock

Director

Hon. Geo. S. Boutwell

Secretary of the Treasury

Washington D.C.

Aug. 6th 2

Gentlemen

In reply to your letter of July 23d ultimo, to the Secy of the Treasury, and referred to me for answer, in which you complain of tardiness in the delivery of Half Dimes by the Assay Office at New York; I herewith enclose for your information a copy of a statement of deposits of silver for Half Dimes by the Assay Office in the months of June and July, and the returns made by the Mint. From a comparison of dates, I presume your memorandum has been paid by the Assay Office since the 1st instant. The Mint has not been in fault.

Yours Respectfully

J. A. Pollock
Director

Mess.
Cantoni & Barling
New York

Augt 5 2

Dear Sir,

We examine ores, for gold and silver, at a charge of five dollars. The examination for other metals, or the full analysis is done by professional chemists, at various grades of charge. I think they will give you the kind of return you want, for fifteen dollars.

There are several laboratories in this city – I may mention Messrs Booth & Garrett; and Prof. S.A. Genth; as very competent.

Platina generally occurs in small grains, in the bed of a river, or an alluvial deposit, associated with grains of gold, palladium, iridium &c.

Respectfully yours

[illegible]
Director

C. Barnes Esq.
Golden City, Colorado.

August 8. 2

Sir,

In reply to your inquiries of July 31st ultimo received this morning, I have to state that in the case of silver bars the charges for parting are as follows, viz:

1. If free, or nearly free, from copper, 1½ cents per ounce. If there is over fifty parts copper, 2½ cents, if over 150 parts, 3½ cents. If the metal is brittle, a further charge of 1 to 3½ cents, according to condition. The silver we have had from Colorado, is generally in very good condition, making a low rate of charge.

2. Silver not copperey or leady, will report gold as low as one thousandth part, if the weight be not over 350 ozs.

Respectfully Yours

A. Pollock

Director

Edw D. Peters, Jr. Esq.

Fair Play, Colorado

Augt 8. 2

Sir,

The returned $300. of new 3¢ nickels, specified in your letter of the 2nd inst., have been received by the Agent of the Adams Express Company located in the Mint building, who will return you an Equal amount of five cent nickels as soon as we can furnish them, the orders on hand just now being some ten days ahead of our ability to supply them.

Yours Respectfully

J. W. Pollock
Director

Thos. Minary, Esq
Secy &c
Louisville
Ky

August 9th 2

Sir

Enclosed find draft returned in consequence of Error, the body of it indicating One Hundred dollars, the figuers $150. your letter also request their being sent One Hundred and fifty dollars

Yours Respectfully

J. A. Pollock
Director.

To A Blanchard
Treas B & M. R.R.
Boston

August 10 2

Hon George S. Boutwell
Secretary of the Treasury
Sir

It is my painful duty to announce the death of Jacob R. Eckfeldt, Esq. the skilful and valued Assayer of the Mint for over forty years. This event occurred yesterday.

During his tedious illness, the office has been in charge of the Assistant assayer, under the provision in Sect. 4 of the Mint Code of January 18, 1837; and will continue to be, until a successor is appointed.

Very respectfully &c.
J. W. Pollock
Director.

August 10. 2

Dear Sir,

I regret to announce the death of Jacob R. Eckfeldt Esq. the venerable Assayer of the Mint.

A meeting in reference to this Event will be held at the Mint on Monday next, the 12th inst. at 11 o'clock A.M. You are specially invited to be present on that occasion, and take part in the proceedings.

Yours truly

J. R. Snowden
Director

To

Jas. Ross Snowden, Esq

August 10. 2

Dear Sir,

I regret to announce the death of Jacob R. Eckfeldt, Esq the venerable Assayer of the Mint.

A meeting in reference to this Event, will be held at the Mint, on Monday next, the 12th inst. at 11 o'clock, A.M. You are specially invited to be present on that occasion, and take part in the proceedings.

Yours Truly

J. Ross Snowden
Director

To
R. Patterson, Esq

Aug. 13th 2

Gentlemen

In reply to your letter of the 8th instant, I enclose a Duplicate memorandum of the gold bullion deposited by Stephen Gilbert in June 1854; giving also the value in dollars.

Yours Respy
Jas. Pollock
Director

Mint U.S.

Messrs.
Pratt & Cowen
Bryan
Ohio

Aug. 14th 2

Dear Sir

Your letter of 9th inst, has been duly received.

The New Jersey copper coins, though interesting, is quite common, and we have several in our Cabinet.

Dollars of 1795 are also by no means rare. Those of 1794, or 1804, would be a prize.

Yours Very Respectfully
James Pollock
Director

per J. C. P.

Hon J. C. Harper
Paterson
N. J.

Aug. 14th 2

Sir

I send you today, by the Adams Express, a box containing twenty-five (25) silver discs, which, with the twenty-five heretofore forwarded, fills your order for fifty discs, received some time ago.

What disposition shall I make of the balance, in coin, due you on account?

Yours Very Respectfully
James Pollock
Director

Rear Admiral per H. C. Hickok
A. Ludlow Case Director's Clerk
Chief of the Bureau of Ordnance
Navy Department
Washington
D.C.

Aug. 15th 2

Dear Sir,

The coin enclosed in your letter of the 8th inst, has proved, after assay, to be counterfeit.

It contains 44/2 per cent of gold, and is therefore worth $1.85 in gold (78 grains)

Shall we return the piece, (which has been clipped for assay) or, the amount, $1.85, as above?

Yours Respectfully
James Pollock
Director

per J.C.P.

J. W. Swaim Esq
Asst. Cashier
Jacksonville, Fla

Aug. 16th 2

Sir

Your letter of the 8th inst, and the bottle of minerals; have been duly received.

The lumps in the bottle are a mixture of sulphur and iron; the sand is nothing but sand. There is no value in them.

Yours Respectfully
James Pollock
Director
p J.C.P.

Mr F. Muhleisen
St. Joseph
Missouri

Aug. 20th 2

Gentlemen

The Secretary of the Treasury having, on the 26th day of July last, sent to me certain extracts from the Report of the Committee, appointed to investigate the wastage in the office of the Melter and Refiner, at the Mint, which extracts contain certain recommendations which he approved; and requesting certain rules or instructions to be prepared to carry them into effect. &c; you are, for the purpose of enabling me to prepare proper instructions, &c, respectfully requested to act as a committee in the examination of said extracts, and to report to me such instructions as your

skill and experience may deem proper to carry the said recommendations into full effect; together with such suggestions on the general subject as may be useful and necessary.

Yours Very Respectfully

[illegible]
Director

To

Prof. R. E. Rogers
" Jas C. Booth
" Wm E. Dubois

Aug. 20th 2

Sir

Respectfully referring to the inquiry in your letter (S.G.) of the 19th instant, I find, upon examination, that, by giving you precedence over private orders to the amount of $20.000, now on file, we can probably furnish you $1.500, in five cent nickel coin by Thursday of this week.

Yours Very Respectfully
Jas Pollock
Director

Hon L. R. Tuttle
Ass't. Treasurer U.S.
Washington D.C.

per H. C. Hickok
Director Clerk

Aug. 21st 21

Sir

The death of Mr Eckfeldt, the late Assayer of the Mint, devolves upon the President the appointment of a successor.

I respectfully suggest that Professor William E. Dubois, the present Assistant Assayer, be promoted to the vacant position.

Mr. Dubois came into the Mint, as Director's Clerk, in 1833, and was appointed Assistant Assayer in January 1837, more than thirty-five years ago. During all that long period he has filled his place with an ability and faithfulness that command the highest approval. He is a gentleman of liberal, as well as technical education, whose

professional attainments and literary abilities have given him a high standing amongst scientific men at home and abroad.

His appointment as Assayer would meet the public expectations, and be every way satisfactory and acceptable to the friends of the Administration; and I cordially and confidently recommend it to your favorable consideration.

Yours Very Respectfully

Jas. Pollock

Director

Hon. Geo. S. Boutwell
Secretary of the Treasury
Washington D.C.

Aug. 21st 2

Sir

The subject contained in your letter (R.L.) of the 15th instant, in connection with an enclosed letter from the Assistant Treasurer at Boston, is a very important and difficult one, and has received my careful attention. In fact I made considerable reference to it in my last Annual Report, and beg leave to ask you to review what is there stated; pages 7 and 8 of the Report, a copy of which I forward today.

There is really no legal provision (as there should be) in regard to the limit of weight at which a coin of the U. S. may be a legal tender at its stamped

values. Such a provision was inserted in the pending Mint Bill, and another substituted in its place, having reference to the exchange of light gold coins for silver coins, at the Mints; but this does not meet the present inquiry.

Obviously, until the difficulty is met by legislation, the Secretary of the Treasury has power to make a Regulation to meet the case; and, as you ask my opinion, it is this, that Collectors and Treasurers shall receive such coin "as long as they weigh within one per cent for the smaller denominations, gold dollars, quarters and half-eagles and three-dollars; and one half per cent for the larger, the eagle and double eagles." When they are still lighter than those rates (the lightness being caused by

natural wear and not by fraud) the depositor must lose the deficit below the line stated. Ordinarily this will relieve all parties from trouble. The light coins, when accumulated, will have to be recoined at the expense of the Treasury.

Hoping these views will answer their temporary purpose,

I am Sir

Yours Very Respectfully

Jas. Pollock

Director

Hon Wm. A. Richardson

Acting Secretary Treasury

Washington D.C.

Aug. 22nd 2

Sir

You will please transfer from the "Base Coinage Redemption Fund" to the Melter & Refiner, Five Hundred and Eighty one 29/100 Dolls ($581.29) in Old Copper cents for melting.

By direction of the Secretary of the Treasury, in his letter of June 3d 1871 to the Director of the Mint.

Geo. Eyster Esq;
Treas. U S. Mint

Jas. Pollock
Director

Aug. 28th 2

Sir

Your letter (A.S.f.) of the 9th instant, requesting my annual report of the operations of the United States Mint and Branches for the fiscal year ending June 30th 1872; has been received.

I am now engaged on the Report, and am only awaiting the reports from the Branch Mints in order to complete it. When ready, I will forward it without delay.

Very Respectfully Yours

Jas. Pollock
Director

Hon. W. A. Richardson
Acting Secretary Treasury
Washington D.C.

Aug 24th 2

Sir:

Yours of the 22nd Inst, inquiring about $100.00 in nickel 5¢ pieces, ordered on the 6th inst; is received, and in reply I have to state, that owing to the intense heat we have not been able to manufacture as rapidly as usual.

We hope, however, to be able to fill your order in about ten days

Your Respectfully

Director

C. A. G. Butt Esq
Asst Cash
Central Nat'l Bank
Columbia
S. C.

Aug. 24th 2

Sir

Referring to your letter (J.J.K.) of the 11th ultimo, in which you inform me that you had ordered the transmission, from the Assistant Treasurer U.S. at New York, to the Mint for recoinage, $2,000,000 in coins of the smaller denominations, &c; and requesting a report of the weight and value thereof, and the time in which the first million of dollars can be returned to the Assistant Treasurer in New York; I now have the honor to enclose the report requested, shewing the weight and value of the coins: the loss by abrasion; allowances for dirt; loss on melting &c. The general result is very satisfactory. The loss by abrasion &c, on the total values, is

less than one-half per cent, which is a fair average on coins of the smaller denominations.

I also enclose Memorandum of Gold Bullion (the coins aforesaid) deposited for re-coinage, showing the net value of the deposits, each being for one million dollars. We have already forwarded to the Assistant Treasurer at New York, $850.000, and will send the balance as rapidly as possible.

The intense and overpowering heat of the weather for the past six weeks, added to the fires of the furnaces, has compelled a partial suspension of our operations, and greatly retarded the recoinage of the gold coins. The workmen could not endure this combined heat, and to save health and life, our work was limited to the morning hours.

The Commission on Wastage made some very interesting experiments on these small coins, to determine the abrasions &c, which also delayed our operations; but the importance of these experiments is fully justified the delay. When the intense heat of the weather abates, we can resume our full work, and deliver the new coin more speedily.

You may order, if you will, another $2,000,000, small coins, to be sent for recoinage, and we can at once enter upon the preliminary process necessary for such purpose.

Yours Very Respectfully

James Pollock

Director

Hon. Geo. S. Boutwell
Secretary of the Treasury
Washington D.C.

Augt 26. 2

Gentlemen,

Your letter of the 24th inst. has been duly received

As a matter of accommodation, the Mint makes assays of ores for the precious metals at a charge of $5. currency in each case.

A fair average sample of the specimen you speak of, as large as a small orange, would be sufficient for the purpose.

Yours Respectfully

Jas Pollock
Director

Messrs
J. B. Hutchison & Co.
Jeansville, Pa.

Aug 26th 2

Sir

Yours of the 24th Inst, inquiring about $300.00 worth of base coin ordered on the 8th inst, has been received, and in reply I have to state, that owing to the intense heat we have not been able to manufacture as rapidly as usual, but hope to fill your order in about ten days

Yours Respectfully

Director

L. M Price Esq
Cash Merchants Nat'l Bk
of Newark N.J

Aug 26 2

Gents

Yours of the 24th Inst, inquiring about $100.00 worth of nickel 5¢ pieces, ordered some days ago, has been received.

In reply I have to say that owing to the extreme heat we have not been able to manufacture as rapidly as usual, but hope to fill your order in about ten days.

Yours Respectfully

J. A. Powell
Director

Messrs Gage Bros & Rice
Sherman House
Chicago
Ill

Aug 24— 2

C. L. Thomas Esq.

Crawfordsville Ind.

Dear sir.

Your favor of the 21st is received. The Mint does not wish to purchase, and the best way will be to send the lot to some dealer for inspection, and to make an offer. The owner will be fairly dealt with by sending to J. W. Haseltine 312 Walnut St. Mason & Co. Assembly building Phila. or Edward Cogan 95 William St. New York.

Yours truly

Jas. Pollock

Director

Aug. 28th 2

Sir

Your letter of 12th inst. has been duly received.

We have some duplicates of interesting foreign coins, same as in the Mint Cabinet, but the difficulty is to find time to select, arrange and label them; especially at this time, when we are so full of more urgent business.

If your fair does not occur before Christmas, we may be able to make up a lot for you by that time.

As the above may not suit your views, I refer you to several respectable dealers in coins for Cabinets; viz. J. W. Haseltine, 512 Walnut St, Phila: Edward Cogan, 408 State St, Brooklyn N.Y.

Yours Respectfully

Jas. Pollock
Director Mint U.S.

Chas. F. Koester Esq
Marysville
Kansas

Aug. 28th 2

Dear Sir

Your letter of 27th inst. has been duly received.

The Draft referred to, viz, for $650 for small coin, was also received in due course of mail. The orders for coin being largely ahead of the supply, the order can not be filled before, probably, Saturday next. The excessive heat has also made it impossible for the men to work full time.

Yours Respectfully
James Pollock
Director

Jno. T. Barker Esq
Cashier Hanover Nat. Bk
New York

pr J. C. P.

Aug 30th 2

Sir

Yours of the 28th Inst, inquiring about base coin ordered, has been received, and in reply I have to state that owing to the intense heat we have not been able to manufacture as rapidly as usual, but now hope to fill your order in a few days

Respectfully Yours

Director

J. B. Shearer Esq
Cash Nat Fort Plain Bank
Fort Plain
N. Y.

Augt 31. 2

Sir,
Enclosed I remit five Dollars
($5.) in payment of your du-
-plicate receipted bill for
the Bankers Magazine from
July, 1872, to June, 1873.
Yours Respectfully
J. W. Colwell
Director

J. Smith Homans Jr. & Co
Publishers Bankers Magazine
23 Murray Street
New York

P. O. Box
4574

Sept. 2d 2

Sir

Enclosed I forward statement of the amount and kind of each denomination of base coins redeemed at the Mint during the months of August ~~September~~ 1872, under the Act of March 3d 1871; as also the amount previously redeemed; and the total amount redeemed.

Yours Very Respectfully

Jas. Pollock

Director

Hon. Geo. S. Boutwell

Secretary of the Treasury

Washington D.C.

Sept. 2d 2

Sir

Your letter of August 30th, inquiring as to the "different denominations of Pattern Pieces (in silver and copper) struck this year", and the price, has been duly received.

No Pattern Pieces of any kinds have been struck at the Mint this year.

Yours Respectfully

Jas. Pollock

Director

O. A. Jenison Esq
Lansing
Mich

Sept. 2d 2

Sir

At the close of business on the 31st ultimo, I made the usual monthly count and examination of the monies in the hands of the Treasurer, of the Mint, with the following result, viz.

Gold	$373.347.56
Silver	55.257.46
Ordinary Account	35.936.61
Cent Coinage A/c	121.101.40
San Francisco Br. Mint	985.37
Denver " "	269.75
Charlotte " "	200.00
Boise City " "	100.00
Carson City " "	308.91
Base coins redeemed	210.722.19
Total	$798,229.25

which corresponds with his Books.

Dales made examination

into the general condition and operations of the Mint, and the institution was found to be in good working order, and its business conducted in a careful and satisfactory manner.

Yours Very Respectfully

Jas Pollock
Director

Hon Geo. S. Boutwell
Secretary of the Treasury
Washington D.C.

Sept 2d 2

Sir

Enclosed I forward statement of Deposits and Coinage at the Mint of the United States during the month of August 1872.

Yours Very Respectfully

J. A. Pollock

Director

Hon Geo. S. Boutwell

Secretary of the Treasury

Washington D.C.

Sept 2nd 2

Sir

Yours of the 30th of August, inquiring about $500.00 in base coin, ordered by you on the 2nd to be sent to the Bank of New Jersey, at New Brunswick, has been received, and in reply I have to inform you that the coin was shipped on the 29th of August per Adams Express Co.

I suppose they have received it before this time.

Yours Respectfully

J. A. Pleasant
Director

John T. Hill Esq
Cashr. Ninth Nat. Bank
New York

Sept 3 2

Dear Sir,

Your lead ore has been examined and contains only a trace of silver. The specimen in the small bag is only iron pyrites.

The Mint charges five dollars for each examination of this kind, but in this case no charge will be made.

Yours truly

J. A. Pollock
Director

Mr. J. S. Haffziger
Sedalia, Mo.

Septr. 3d 2

Sir

The following is a memorandum of the cost of the fifty (50) silver discs ordered in your letter of the 8th of July last, and also of the nett proceeds, in silver coin, of the sixty (60) discs returned to the Mint, on that date by Express, viz;

July 12th 1872

25 fine Silver discs =	151.49 ozs.	
add 4/1000 for wastage	.61 "	
	152.10 "	
at $1.40 per oz. (in silver coin)		$212.94

August 14th 1872.

215 fine silver discs =	146.51 ozs	
add 4/1000 for wastage	.59 "	
	147.10 "	
at $1.40 per oz. (in silver coin)		205.94
Total 50 Silver discs		$418.88

Credit

By Proceeds in silver coin of sixty,

Total discs -- ($418.88)

(60) returned silver discs, as per enclosed memorandum of Treasurer of the Mint. $490.91

Balance to the Credit of the Bureau of Ordnance on this Account = $72.03 (coin)

Yours Very Respectfully

J. A. Pollock
Director

Rear Admiral
A. Ludlow Case
Chief of the Bureau of Ordnance
Navy Department
Washington D.C.

P.S. There should be added to the above a charge of $25. (fifty cents per disc) for turning, which reduces the balance to your credit to $47.03.

J. A. Pollock
Director

Dept. 3d 2

Sir

The two hundred and eighty dollars ($280) in rejected U.S. gold coin, specified in your letter of the 23d ult, were duly received by Express, and deposited for recoinage in the name of my Clerk, H. C. Hickok; the nett product amounting to two hundred and seventy-nine dollars ($279.79) as per the enclosed memorandum from the Treasurer of the Mint. In accordance with your request I deposited this sum with the Asst. Treasurer U.S. at Phila'a, in your name, as a transfer of funds, and herewith inclose duplicate Certificates of deposit.

Yours Respectfully

Jas. Pollock

Director

Chas. H. Shute Esq
Asst. Treas. U.S.
New Orleans La.

Sept. 4th 2

Sir

In reply to your inquiry of the 31st ult, I have to say that the base coinage of the U. S. is struck by the Mint, and not by a private Contractor; and the intrinsic value is within from one, say, five to ten per cent of the nominal value, according to the price of labor and materials.

You can doubtless make a favorable contract for the manufacture of small coins for the Government you represent, with Messrs Holmes, Booth and Hayden, Waterbury, Connecticut; and perhaps other parties there.

Yours Very Respectfully

Jno Pollock

Director.

Drake DeKay Esq.
No 35 William St.
New York

Sept 5th 21

Sir:

Yours of the 3rd Inst, inquiring about $100.— worth of base coin ordered by you on the 9th Ult, has been received.

In reply I have to inform you that the receipt of the draft was acknowledged on the 12th of August and the coin was shipped to your address, per Adams Express Co, on the 4th Inst.

Yours respectfully

Jas. Pollock
Director

Stephen H. Norman Esq
Cash Aquidneck Nat'l Bk
Newport
R.I.

Sept. 6th 2

Sir

Your letter of August 19th was duly received.

Enclosed I return you $2.05 currency, the proceeds of the $1.68 gold, the nett value, upon assay, of the counterfeit $5 pieces forwarded by you to the Mint, August 8th ult. for examination.

The absence on his summer vacation of the officer having the matter in charge, explains the delay in this remittance.

Yours Respectfully

A. Pollock

Director

J. M. Swain Esq.
Acting Cashier
Jacksonville
Florida

Sept. 6th 2

Sir

Your letter of 7th inst, has been rec'd.

The Agent of the Adams Express Co, at the Mint, gives me the following memorandum;

"August 12th 1872, sent $99.90/100 in silver dollars to J. R. W. Hennessy, Kansas City, Mo. He must write to the Agent of the American Express Co, at Kansas City, to send his silver where he wants it".

Yours Respectfully

J. P. Kelly
Director

Mr J. R. W. Hennessy
Miami
Missouri

Sept 7th 2

Sir

Yours of the 5th Inst, inquiring about small coin ordered by you on the 10th Ulto, has been received, and in reply I have to inform you that the coin was shipped to your address, per Adams Express Co, on the 4th Inst

Yours Respectfully

J. A. Reeves
Director

John F. Hart Esq
Cashr Rockingham Nat'l Bk
Portsmouth
N. H.

Sept 19th 2

Sir

Your letter of the 7th Inst, inquiring after bad coins ordered on the 20th ulto, has been received, and in reply I would state that the coin will be forwarded to your address, per Adams Express Co, this day.

Yours Respectfully

Director

J. W. Abbot Esq
Cash' First Nat'l Bk
Tamaqua
Pa

Sep. 9th 2

Sir

Your letter of the 7th inst, was received this morning, and was referred to the Agent of the Adams Express Co, located in the Mint building, who informs me that your king of gold came from the Boston Office, but there was nothing about it to show that it was to go to Somerville. As you are an old customer, and always had received your gold at Boston, he sent this lot, $120.94 to you at Boston, on August 30th. You can find it at the Express office there.

Yours Respectfully
J. A. Powell
Director

Mr Ch. Schuebeler
Somerville
Mass.

Sept: 10 2

Dear Sir,

I return thanks, and with much pleasure, for your donation to the Numismatic Cabinet of the U.S. Mint, viz:

A medal of John Adams, in fine order.

Three silver pennies, of Henry I, II, & III.

They will be duly displayed in our cases, and seen by many visitors.

Very truly your
obedt servant
J. A. Pollock
Director.

Capt. Wilson Defendorf.

Sept 11th 2

Gentlemen

Your letter of 10th inst, offering a cask of crucibles for sale, has been duly received.

The Mint and Branches are now well supplied with all the crucibles needed; consequently we do not wish to purchase.

Yours Respectfully
Jas. Pollock
Director
per J.B.B.

Messrs. J. Goebel & Co.
129 Maiden Lane
New York

Dep. 12th 2

Sir

Your letter of 10th inst. has been duly received.

The gold and silver coins of the U. S. are nine-tenths (9/10ths) fine; that is, nine hundred parts of pure metal to one hundred parts of alloy.

Yours Respectfully
James Pollock
Director
per J. C. P.

Mr Jas. P. Norton
Springfield
Mass

Sept. 16th 2

Sir,

Your letter of the 13th inst, has been duly received.

We cannot furnish any old cents; they can usually be had of Coin Collectors, of whom there are a number in Boston, New York and this City. There is no cent of 1815.

Yours Respectfully
James Pollock
Director
pr J.C.P.

C. W. Goddard Esq
Post master
Portland, Me.

Sept. 16th 2

Sir

The ten (10) returned silver discs mentioned in your letter of the 13th instant, have been duly received by Express; and direc=tions given to prepare the fifty four (54) new ones required, as soon as the work can be prop=erly executed.

Yours Very Respectfully
Jas Pollock
Director

Rear Admiral pr H E Hickok
A. Ludlow Case Director Clerk
Chief of the Bureau of Ordnance
Navy Department
Washington D. C.

Sept. 16th 2

Sir

The six mineral specimens from J. W. Giles, Houghton, Mich., forwarded to the Mint through you, have been sufficiently examined here. They are ordinary silicious stones, such as may be found anywhere, and are of no value. One has a speck of lead.

Mr Giles' letter is herewith returned.

Yours Very Respectfully
Jas Pollock
Director

Hon L. R. Tuttle
Assistant Treasurer U.S.
Washington D.C.

from H.B. Hickok
Director's Clerk

Telegram

Sept 18. 2

William M. Balch
4 Blossom Street
Boston, Mass.

The Mint makes silver dollars to order for depositors of silver bullion, but keeps none for sale. See circular by mail.

James Pollock
Director

Sept 19th 2

Gents

Yours of the 17th Inst; in which you say that "We are in receipt of your favor of 15th "inst "per Vogel" acknowledging the receipt of our "favor of 1st inst enclosing Seventy dollars," has been received.

In reply I have to say that the acknowledgement should have been for Eighty, instead of Seventy dollars.

The small coin will be sent as soon as possible.

Yours Respectfully
James Pollock
Director
per Vogel

Messrs Carson Pirie & Co
Chicago
Ill

Septr 19th 2

Sir

The package of returned silver discs, by Express, mentioned in your letter of the 18th instant; has been received; and directions given, as per your request, to make fifty (50) new discs in addition to the fifty ordered in your letter of the 13th inst.

Yours Very Respectfully
Jas Pollock
Director

Rear Admiral p H C Hickok
A. Ludlow Case Director Clerk
Chief Bureau of Ordnance
Navy Department
Washington D.C.

Sept 30. 2

Madam,

As a matter of accommodation your request of the 17th inst. is complied with, and a gold dollar of 1872 herewith Enclosed*; but we cannot make a practice of it.

Yours Respectfully
Jas Pollock
Director
pr H.

Mrs. Sarah A. Spooner
Monroe
Mich.

* In Exchange for the one you sent.

Sept 20 2

Gentlemen

Yours of the 19th inst, enclosing check on Nat. Park Bank, New York No 21116, for Two hundred dollars, in payment of order for like amount of Nickel 5¢ pieces, has been received.

As it would be impossible for us to fill your order in less than three weeks time, I herewith return your check.

The check was endorsed before we knew you were in a hurry for the coin

Yours Respectfully
James Pollock
Director
per Vogel

Messrs Swenson Perkins & Co
80 Wall st
New York

Sept 21st 2

Gentlemen

Your letter of the 18th inst, requesting us to send, at once, the bar coin ordered by you on the 2nd inst, has been received, and in reply I have to state that we would like to accommodate you very much, but can not serve you out of your turn. Others are just as hot of change as you, and it would not be justice to make them wait who have ordered first

Yours Respectfully
James Pollock
Director
per Vogel

Messrs Henry Schoellkopf & Bro
Chicago
Ill

Sept 21st 2

Sir

Yours of the 19th Inst, requesting us to fill your order for base coin by the 5th of October, has been received and in reply I have to say that we would like very much to accommodate you, but do not see how it can be done without injustice to others. The orders for small coin (base) are entered in our books in the order in which they are received and, in compliance with our regulations, have to be filled in their turn.

If we can possibly accommodate you we will do so.

Yours Respectfully
James Pollock
Director
per Vogel

E. A. Jassett Esq.
East First Rail Rd
Fall River
Mass

Sept. 21st 2

Sir

You will please deliver from the "Base Coinage Redemption Fund" to the Melter & Refiner, Four Hundred and Seventy Six 67/100 Dollars ($467.76) in old Copper cents for Melting

By direction of the Secretary of the Treasury, in his letter of June 3d 1871 to the Director of the Mint.

Very Respectfully
Jas Pollock
Director
per H C Hickok
Director's Clerk

To Geo. Eyster Esq.
Treasurer U. S. Mint
Phila

Sept 23rd 2

Sir

Yours of the 20th inst, enquiring about small coin (base) ordered on the 24th ult, has been received, and in reply I have to inform you that the coin was shipped to your address, per Adams Express Co, on the 18th inst.

Yours Respectfully

Jas Pollock
Director

A. S. Burt Esq.
Van West
Ohio

Sept 23rd 2

Sir

Yours of the 21st inst, inquiring "if your order of the 28th Ulto for $500. in Nickels and pennies had been reached yet," has been received and in reply I have to inform you that we will probably be able to ship your coin some time this week

Yours Respectfully

[illegible]
Director

R. S. Smith Esq
Cashr Union Nat Bk
Pittsburgh
Pa

Sept. 23d 2

Sir

I herewith forward Estimates of Appropriations required for the service of the fiscal year ending June 30th 1874, by the Mint and Branches, and Assay offices; together with a copy of explanatory remarks accompanying the Estimates from the Branch Mints at San Francisco and Carson City, and the Assay offices, and to which I desire to call your special attention.

In the manuscript Estimates for the Mint, herewith submitted, the appropriation asked for wages of workmen and adjusters is $155,000, an increase of $30000 over the appropriation for the same purpose

for the current fiscal year. The necessity for this increase arises from the fact that the base coinage, from the profits of which a large portion of these expenses have been heretofore paid, has been almost suspended; consequently, almost the entire, if not the whole expense of the institution, will be thrown upon the ordinary appropriations.

Heretofore, as the base coinage is as large, a large proportion of the general expenses was paid on base coinage account; for, in conducting the operations of minting the gold, silver and base coins, the workmen and employes are so frequently and necessarily interchanged, and pass from one kind of coinage, or work, to another, according to the demands of the

occasion, that it is almost impos-
-sible to say how many were re-
-quired for the gold and silver,
and how many for the base coin-
-age, or the operations connected
therewith. The gold and silver
coinage being points placed and
intermixed, with the base coin-
-age, and a large proportion of
the employes in each department
being necessary and essential
to the accomplishment of the work
in either or both, it follows as an
actual and imperative necessity
that our working force must
be equal to the emergencies; and
if our employes cannot be paid
out of the profits of the cent
coinage, which cannot be done
next year, the general appropria-
-tions for their wages must be
increased. I have based this

Estimate, the amount asked for, upon a large reduction of our working force. The experience of the past year proves that a less appropriation would very seriously affect the efficiency of our operations.

Yours Very Respectfully

A. Bache

Director

Hon. Geo. S. Boutwell

Secretary of the Treasury

Washington D.C.

Sept 24 2

Sir

Yours of the 21st inst, inquiring about Small coin (Bar) ordered by you some time since, has been received and in reply I have to inform you that they were shipped to your addres, per Adams Express Co, on the 18th inst.

Your Respectfully
James Pollock
Director
per Vogt

D. P. Evans Esq
Cash. Farmers Nat'l Bk
of Ripley
Ohio

Sept 24th 2

Sir

Yours of the 23d inst, requesting us to return $50 sent by you for base coins, has been received, and in compliance with your request, we herewith return a fifty dollar note.

Our rule in regard to base coins is, to place the orders on our books in the order in which they are received and fill them in their regular turn; so we could not accommodate you without doing injustice to others.

Your respectfully
James Pollock
Director
per Vogel

Mr Edward Cogan
408 State St
Brooklyn
N. Y

Sept 24 2

Recd of Hon. James Pollock, Director of the Mint, Four hundred and Eighteen 88/100 Dollars, in silver coin, in full for fifty (50) silver discs furnished for the Bureau of Ordnance of the Navy Department, Washington, D.C. (25 sent July 12. 1872, and 25, August 14. 1872 — See Director's Mint Letter Book, Sept 3. 1872 pp 365 & 366.)

Jas C Booth
M. & R.

$418 88/100 — Silver.

Sept 25th 2

Sir:

Your of the 23rd inst, enclosing draft #35852 for $100. in payment of order for base coins has just been received.

I herewith return draft for your endorsement

Yours Respectfully
James Pollock
Director
per Vogt

J. H. Sanders Esq
Schenectady
N. Y

Sept 25. 2

Sir,

Enclosed I forward my requisition for the second quarter of the current fiscal year, for the sum of $50,875. out of the appropriations for the support of the Mint for the fiscal year ending June 30. 1873; and respectfully request that it may receive early attention.

Very Respectfully
Your obt svt
Jas Pollock
Director
per H.C. Hickok
Director's Clerk

Hon Geo. S. Boutwell
Secretary of the Treasury

Philadelphia

Sept 25. — 2

Geo. S. Boutwell,

Philadelphia

Fifty Thousand, Eight hundred and

seventy five dollars ——————

Dec. 30. 1872

1872-73

Jas Pollock

Director

by H. C. Hickok

Director Clerk

Philadelphia		$ 9 475 00
	do.	31 250 00
	do.	8 750 00
	do.	150 00
Specimens of Ores & Coins	do.	
Weights & Bullion	do.	6,250 00

Sept 25th 2

Sir

Yours of the 23rd inst, in relation to Small coin (Cent) ordered by you on the 6th inst, is received.

We would like very much to accommodate you and Ship them at once, but it will be impossible to do so before next week.

Yours Respectfully
James Pollock
Director
per Vogel

F. C. Samuels Esq
Cash: Second Nat'l Bk
of Allentown
Pa

Sept 27th 2

Sir:

Yours of the 23rd inst, inquiring about bar coin ordered on the 26th of August, has been received.

In reply I have to inform you that the coin was shipped to your address, per Adams Express, on the 21st Inst

Yours Respectfully
James. Pollock
Director
per Vogel

C. F. Hemenway Esq
Asst. Cash
Molina Nat'l Bank
Molina
Ill

Sept. 28th 2

Sir

The temporary Commission of Professor William E. Dubois, as Assayer of the Mint of the United States, enclosed in your letter of the 26th instant; was received this morning, and has been duly delivered to him accord=ing to your direction.

Yours Very Respectfully
Jas. Pollock
Director

Hon. Wm. A. Richardson
Acting Secretary Treasury
Washington D.C.

Sept 30th 2

Sir

Your of the 28th inst, stating that "on the 9th inst you had sent draft on N. Y. for $500. to be returned in base coin, and asking when you might expect to receive it", has been received.

In reply I have to say that we hope to be able to forward the coin to you in about a week or ten days more

Yours Respectfully

Jas. Conroy
Director

L. M. Price Esq
Cashr. Merchants Nat Bk
Newark
N. J

Sept 30th 2

Sir

Yours of the 26th inst, requesting us to send some 1¢ pieces with the 5¢ nickels ordered on the 4th inst, has been received and in reply I have to inform you that the coin was shipped before yours of the 26th was received.

Yours Respectfully
Jas. Pollock
Director

C. A. G. Butt Esq
Asst Cashr.
Central Nat'l Bk
Columbia
S. C

Sept. 30th 2

Sir

Enclosed I forward, statement of the amount and kinds of each denomination of base coins redeemed at the Mint during the months of September 1872; under the Act of March 3d 1871; as also the amount previously redeemed, and the total amount redeemed.

Very Respectfully Yours

Jos. Pollock

Director

Hon Geo. S. Boutwell

Secretary of the Treasury

Washington D.C.

Sept. 30th 2

Sir

Enclosed I forward Certificate, of this date, No. 8928, of the deposit, by myself, with the Assistant Treasurer of the United States at Philadelphia, of the sum of seven hundred and fifty dollars ($750) on account of profits of the Medal Department of the Mint.

Yours Very Respectfully

Jas. Ross Snowden
Director

Hon. Geo. S. Boutwell
Secretary of the Treasury
Washington D.C.

Oct 1st 2/

Sir:

Yours of the 30th ult; asking if we cannot send your base coin at once; has been received and in reply I have to say that it would be impossible to fill your order out of its turn without doing injustice to others.

It will be three or four weeks before we can fill your order

Yours Respectfully
James Pollock
Director
per Vogel

H. F. Davis Esq
Cash Nat. Bk of Chester Valley
Coatesville.
Pa

Oct. 1st 2

Sir

At the close of business on the 30th ultimo, I made the usual monthly count and examination of the monies in the hands of the Treasurer of the Mint, with the following result; viz:

Gold	$ 115,583.30
Silver	84,984.95
Ordinary Account	19,288.05
Cent Coinage Ap	135,638.60
San Francisco Br. Mint	985.37
Denver " "	269.75
Boise City " "	81.50
Charlotte " "	200.00
Carson City " "	308.91
Base coins redeemed	209,479.93
Total	$ 766,820.36

Which correspond with his books.

I also made examinations into the general condition and operations of the Mint, and the institution was found to be in good working order, and its business conducted in a careful and satisfactory manner

Yours Very Respectfully
Jas. Pollock
Director

Hon. Geo. S. Boutwell
Secretary of the Treasury
Washington D.C.

Oct. 1st 2

Sir

Your transfer Check on the Assistant Treasurer of the United States at Philadelphia, No. 2536, for $2000, enclosed in your letter of September 30th, ultimo; has been received today, and we hope to fill your order for that amount in five cent nickel coin, by Monday next, the 7th instant.

Very Respectfully Yours
James Pollock
Director
per H. C. Hickok
Director's Clerk

Hon F. E. Spinner
Treasurer of the United States
Washington D.C.

Octr 1 2

Wm. C. Atmor Esqr.
Harrisburg, Pa.

Dear Sir

I have to thank you for two engraved plates, used in making the Continental currency; to be placed in the Cabinet of the Mint.

Very respectfully,
James Pollock
Director
per W.B. Hickok
Director's Clerk

Oct. 2d 2

Dr. Sir

Your letter of the 1st inst, has been duly received.

The eagle pennies, to which you refer, are worth only one cent, and no more. The Government does not pay a premium on them.

Yours Respectfully
Jas. Pollock
Director
per J.O.P.

Chas. H. Beadle Esq
Elm & Franklin Sts
New York

Sept. 30th 2

Sir

Enclosed I respectfully transmit my report of the operations of the Mint and Branches and Assay offices during the fiscal year ending June 30th 1872.

Yours Very Respectfully

Jas. Pollock

Director

Hon. Geo. S. Boutwell
Secretary of the Treasury
Washington D.C.

Oct. 2d 2

Sir

Enclosed I forward statement of Deposits and Coinage at the Mint of the United States, for the month of September 1872.

Very Respectfully Yours
Jas. Pollock
Director
per H. C. Kidcock
Director's Clerk

Hon. Geo. S. Boutwell
Secretary of the Treasury
Washington D.C.

Oct. 4th 2

Dear Sirs

Your letter of 3d inst, has been duly received.

The $300, in nickel coin, ordered by you August 30th, for Mr S. A. Mahon, Austin, Texas, were forwarded to him, as per your order, by Adams Express on September 21st, ultimo. He has probably received them by this time.

Yours Respectfully
Jas. Pollock
Director
pr J. C. P.

Mess.
Swenson, Ver Inst Co
80 Wall St
New York

Oct. 4th 2

Sir

In reply to the inquiry in your letter (J.J.K.) of the 3d instant, I have to state, that the legal fineness of sovereigns is 916 2/3 thousandths; but as we report to the half thousandth the estimate here would be 916 1/2. It would fall a little short of this, say to 916, if the bars were made from sovereigns of old date as well as new.

There is another point in the case, as to whether you wish the valuations with or without the charge of 1/2 of one per cent; which by law we make for coining. This charge is high, and prevents us from making a valuation to tally with what would be stated

in England, where no charge is made. I therefore offer an alter=-native valuation, to be met by the circumstances of the case.

At the full British report, sovereign bar gold, without deduc=-tion for coinage, would be worth eighteen dollars 94 88/100 cents per ounce troy.

At our report of 916½, it would be worth, without deductions, eighteen dollars 94 57/100 cents per ounce.

After deduction, eighteen dollars 85 10/100 cents per ounce.

Recapitulation. — $18.94.88
18.94.57
18.85.10

Very Respectfully Yours
Jas Pollock
Director
per H C Kickok
Director's Clerk

Hon W. A. Richardson
Acting Secy. Treasy.
Washington D C.

Oct. 5th 2

Sir

I yesterday forwarded to you by Express, forty eight (48) silver discs, part of your order for one hundred and four (104). The remaining fifty-six (56) will be forwarded as soon as they can be completed.

Yours Very Respectfully
Jas Pollock
Director
per K. C. Hitchcock
Director's Clerk

Rear Admiral
A. Ludlow Case
Chief of the Bureau of Ordnance
Navy Department
Washington D. C.

Oct. 7th 2

Dear Sir

Your letter of 5th inst, has been duly received.

The Mint charge for assay is five dollars for each lot. The quantity sent should not be large, say not more than a half pound or one pound.

Yours Respy

J. A. Roberts
Director

Mr Z. Warren
Parkersburg
W Va

Oct. 7th 2

Sir

In reply to your inquiry (R.S.), of the 4th instant, "why the monthly report of funds in the hands of the U. S. Assistant Treasurer, Philadelphia, made by the Surveyor and Naval officer of that Port the 3rd instant, was not also signed by me "as per instructions heretofore given"; I have to say that your letter is the first information I have had that a count was made, and report forwarded, on the 3rd of October, as stated by you.

I am Sir, &c,

Jas. Pollock
Director

Hon. W. A. Richardson
Acting Secretary Treasury

Oct 7th 2

Sir:

Your of the 4th inst, inquiring about base coins ordered on the 4th Ultimo, has been received, and in reply I have to inform you that the coins were shipped to your address per Adams Express, on the 5th Inst.

Your Respectfully

Jas. Pollock

Director

J. H. Foulds Esq P. M.
Cincinnati
Ohio

Oct 9th 2

Sir:

Your letter of the 8th inst, addressed to Vogel; who had some correspondence with you, on the subject of base coins, during my absence; has ban shown to me.

When your former order for 1¢ pieces was received we had no pieces of 1872, and no prospect of having any for some time, so the Cashier, thinking you were in a hurry, sent you what he had. Such was also the case when your last order was received.

I have now to inform you that we can probably send you $10.- in pieces of 1872 by the middle of next week, so if you wish them send the money on at once

Your Respectfully

Jas. Pollock

Director

Edward Cogan Esq
408 State Street
Brooklyn. N. Y

Oct 11th 2

Sir:

Yours of the 9th instant, inquiring if we could send you at once $500 in Nickel and Copper coins; has been received.

In reply I have to say that we would like very much to accommodate you, but the amount of orders on hand is so great that it will take at least two weeks to fill them.

Your best way would be to send your order, have it entered on our books, and we will fill it as soon as possible.

Yours Respectfully

J. A. Pollock
Director

E. S. Francis Esq
Cash Pittsfield Nat'l Bk
of Pittsfield
Mass.

P. S. "We will do better in November"

Oct. 12th 2

Geo Eyster Esq
Treasurer U. S. Mint
Philadelphia

Sir

You will please deliver from the "Base Coinage Redemption Fund" to the Melter & Refiner Five Hundred and Fifty Eight 36/100 ($558.36) Dollars in old Copper Cents for Melting.

By direction of the Secretary of the Treasury, in his letter of June 3d 1871 to the Director of the Mint

Very Respectfully

Jas Pollock

Director

October 12th 72

Hon. F. E. Spinner
Treasurer U.S.

Sir

In reply to your communication of 25th ult. I have the honor to enclose, "Statement of the Bullion Fund of the Mint", also "Account of Coin received from U.S. Treasy. New York, for recoinage", and "Statement of Base Coinage &c" for the Quarter ending Sept. 30. 1872.

I am very respectfully

Jas. Pollock
Director

Oct. 12th 72

Dear Sir

The piece sent by you has been carefully examined. It has the true impressions, and the proper hardness, and color; is only less than ½ grain light, (which is close enough for a coin of that metal) and has no sign of casting; on the contrary, shows the marks of the cutting punch on the edge.

It is genuine without doubt.

We shall always take pleasure in examining suspected pieces at your desire.

The coin is herewith returned.

Very respectfully

Jas. Pollock

Director

Col. H. A. Whitely

Chief J. S. Division

Treasury Dept

Duplicate sent Oct. 24th 1872

October 14 2

Honble. Lieut-Col. A. Hyde
Master of Her Majesty's Mint
at Calcutta.

Sir

It gives me much pleasure to acknowledge receipt of your courteous and friendly letter, as also of the Printed Statements of the operations of your Mint.

In compliance with your request, I have this day entrusted to Adams Express, which corresponds and connects with the Express between London and Calcutta, a paper box containing a full proof-set of our coins. I have added, a small medal commemorative of the opening of the Railway across our continent, on which is a good likeness of our President; also a medal

in aluminium, such as are present to each Commissioner at our Annual Assay in February. Not having one left of the last date, I send one of 1870, being precisely similar in devices. These medals I beg you to accept.

The freight on this package, and insurance for the value, are prepaid here; and I shall be obliged for information of its arrival, in due time.

We will, if you please, make a "business transaction" of the coins, and I will ask you to pay the value, which is $43.60, say £9, by a set of your coins, proof if convenient, for our Cabinet or Museum, which is open to the public; and another set, not proof, for assay. If the coins of Bombay and Madras are not just the same in devices, I would like a set of each, if at hand; if they only differ in mint-mark, it is not worth while to send them. — You will also please to send me

the Work on the Indian Mints, which I have not seen, and wish to have in our Mint Library.

Whichever way the balance of account will lie after these, you can draw on me, or in my favor, upon London or New York, insuring, if you please, the value of the package.

In my Annual Report to June 30, 1872, which will be in print early in December and which I shall send you, I have paid a passing compliment to the management of the Mint at Calcutta.

I would like to know, what becomes of the vast amount of silver which flows into your country, and does not seem to flow out; whether it is redundant in currency; and whether gold is likely to come into use. These items of information are important to me, in the position which I occupy. I have the honor to be, your obt servant

J. A. Pollock
Director

Oct. 14th 2

To His Excellency
The President of the United States
Sir

In pursuance of the third Section of the Mint Law of January 18, 1837, I respectfully nominate for your approval, Jacob B. Eckfeldt, as Assistant Assayer of the Mint; that place having been vacated by the promotion of Mr Dubois.

Mr Eckfeldt has been in the Assay Office over seven years, and is the First Weigher. He is 26 years of age, a young man of pure character, great industry and vigilance, and well qualified for the work.

I have the honor to be
Very Respfy. Your obdt Servt
Jas. Pollock
Director

Oct. 15th 2

Sir

I herewith enclose, to you a letter to the President of the United States, in which I nominate, according to the provisions of the Act of Congress in such cases made, Jacob B. Eckfeldt, as Assistant Assayer of the Mint, in place of William E. Dubois, appointed Assayer, and request that you will present the same to the President, and ask his approval of said nomination.

The last Assistant Assayer gave Bonds in the sum of $2000. As this sum is sufficient, I respectfully request that you will cause to be forwarded

the Bonds, affidavits &c, in blank, that they may be at once exe=
=cuted.

Very Respectfully Yours

Jas Pollock

Director

Hon. Geo. S. Boutwell
Secretary of the Treasury
Washington D. C.

Oct. 15th 2

Sir

Your letter of 12th instant, has been received.

Your coin was sent to you, by Express, at Columbus, Miss, on Oct. 2d. The Agent of the Adams Express Co, at the Mint, has written to the Agent at the above place, to forward it to you at Columbus, Georgia, without extra charge; and I presume you will receive it in a few days.

Yours Respectly

J. W. Pollock
Director

T. S. Spear Esq, Agt
99 Broad St
Columbus Ga.

Oct 16th 2

Sir:

The Foreign Silver, sent by you through Adams Express, arrived this morning and is in the hands of the Express Agent, by whom, it will be deposited at the Mint for coinage. The returns will then be converted into currency and the amount in 5¢ nickels forwarded to you. This being the only way in which we can exchange Silver for nickels

Yours Respectfully

A. Pollock
Director

Geo Stickney Esq
Cash First Nat'l Bank
Grand Haven
Mich

Oct 16th

Sir

I discovered to day, much to my regret, that the Statistical Tables belonging to my Annual Report, were not forwarded to you with the Report itself. They had been prepared and carefully compared by my Clerks, and laid in a drawer until the Report proper was ready to be forwarded; but in mailing the Report the Tables were inadvertantly over=looked. I herewith forward them, (36 pages in all) and hope they are not too late to take their place in the printed public documents.

Very Respectfully Yours

Hon Geo. S. Boutwell
Secretary Treasury

Director

Oct. 17th 2

Sir

The sixteen (16) returned silver discs, specified in your letter of the 16th instant, were received this morning by Express, and credited to the Bureau's account, as per your request.

Very Respectfully Yours

Director

Rear Admiral

A. Ludlow Case

Chief of Bureau of Ordnance

Navy Department

Washington D.C.

Oct. 18th 2

Sir

Your request of the 17th instant, to be allowed to make photographic copies of new coins in the Mint Cabinet, has been received.

The Director is out of town today, your letter will be brought to his notice on his return tomorrow.

Yours Respectfully
H C Hickok
Director's Clk

~~Jr~~

J. Smith Homans Esq
New York

Telegram

Oct. 18. 2

T. S. Spear, Agent
Columbus, Georgia.
One hundred and nine dollars, seventy four cents, Expressed, Second inst. to Columbus, Miss, by mistake. Since ordered to be forwarded to you from there.
Jas Pollock
Director Udallist
per H.

(Collect)

Oct 19th 2

Sir:

Enclosed please find memorandum of Silver Bullion purchased by the Mint, Oct 16. 1872; also two gold pieces found in the Silver.

The returns for the Silver are as follows;

Net Value of Silver returned $101.55. Converted $101.55 Silver into Currency @ 9 1/2 producing $111.20

Deposited with Treasurer for 5¢ Nickel coin $100.-

Paid Express charges on Silver Shipped to Mint 1.30 101.30

Leaving a balance of ~~£~~ $ 9.90

in currency, subject to your order. Please advise me as to its disposal.

The 5¢ Nickels will be shipped at the earliest possible moment.

Yours Respectfully
James Pollock
Director
per Vogel

Geo Stickney Esq
Cash First Nat'l Bank
Grand Haven
Mich

Oct 21st 2

Sir

Your letter of the 19th inst. is rec.

The deposite of refined Silver to which you refer was received on the 16th and paid to the Agent of the Adams Express Co. on the 19th inst; and I presume delivered to you by that Co. ere this.

Yours Respectfully
Jas Pilcock
Director.

Jno R. Magruder Esq.
Care of Dr H. Magruder
44 Third St
Georgetown. D.C

Oct. 21st

Regulations relating to the [illegible] of Bullion

When bullion is deposited by the Mint, a Branch Mint or an Assay Office of the U.S., in any other of the like Institutions, such bullion shall be received under the regulations which govern all other deposits — viz: be liable to allowances and deductions and be received at the weight and assay of the Institution receiving the deposit.

When disagreement between the depositing and receiving Institution cannot otherwise be reconciled — the deposit shall be returned to the Institution which deposited it.

Very respectfully

[illegible]

Approved the

[illegible] of the [illegible]

[illegible]

Oct 21

Sir

The enclosed Regulations with regard to the reception of Bullion by the Mint and Branches and Assay Offices - from each other - submitted by the Director of the Mint to the Secretary of the Treasury, and approved by that Officer on the 17th of October inst, are herewith forwarded for your information and guidance.

Yours respectfully

[illegible]
Director

[illegible] Esq.
Assayer U.S. Assay Office
Boise City, Idaho.

Oct. 21

Sir

The enclosed Regulations with regard to the reception of Bullion by the Mint and Branches and Assay Offices from each other submitted by the Director of the Mint to the Secretary of the Treasury, and approved by that Officer on the 17th of October inst., are hereby forwarded for your information and guidance.

Yours respectfully

Jas. Pollock

Director

H. V. Rice Esq.
Supt. U. S. Br. Mint
Carson City Nev.

Oct. 21 [illegible]

Sir

The enclosed Regulations with regard to the reception of Bullion by the Mint and Branches, and Assay Offices - from each other - submitted by the Director of the Mint and approved by the Secretary of the Treasury on the 17th of October inst - are hereby forwarded for your information and guidance

Yours respectfully

[illegible]

Calvin J. Cowles [illegible]

[illegible]

Oct. 21

Sir

The enclosed Regulations with regard to the reception of Bullion by the Mint and Branches and Assay Offices from each other submitted by the Director of the Mint to the Secretary of the Treasury, and approved by that Officer on the 17th of October inst. are hereby forwarded for your information and guidance

Yours respectfully

[illegible]

Director

Jacob H. L. Schirmer Esq.

Assayer U. S. Br. Mint

Denver Col.

Oct. 21st

Sir

The enclosed Regulations with regard to the reception of Bullion by the Mint and Branches and Assay Offices from each other submitted by the Director of the Mint, to the Secretary of the Treasury, and approved by that Officer on the 17th of October inst. are hereby forwarded for your information and guidance.

Yours respectfully

Jas. Pollock
Director

O. H. La Grange Esq.
Supt. U. S. Br. Mt.
San Francisco Cal.

Oct 22. 2

Dear Sir,

The new coins in the Mint Cabinet, referred to in your Letter of the 17th inst. can be photographed as per your request, for publication in the Bankers Magazine. As it must be done in the Mint, and under the eye of our Curator the coins are extra specimens, and must not be touched by the fingers, except at the edges.

A written description of these coins cannot be furnished in advance of the publication of my annual report, which will fully cover the whole ground.

Yours Truly

J. A. Powell
Director

J. Smith Homans, Esq
New York

Oct 22. 2

Dear Sir,

The new coins in the Mint Cabinet, referred to in your letter of the 17th inst. can be photographed as per your request, for publication in the Banker's Magazine but it must be done in the Mint, and under the eye of one Curator the coins are often specimens, and must not be touched by the fingers, except at the edges.

A written description of these coins cannot be furnished in advance of the publication of my Annual report, which will fully cover the whole ground.

Yours truly

J. R. Snowden

A. Smith Homans, Esq
New York

Oct 22d 72

Sir,

In compliance with your request "S.G." of the 21st inst. I herewith enclose a statement of the amount of the Bullion Fund of the Mint, September 30. 1863; also amount of Base Coins received from Ass't Treasurers and U.S. Depositaries for redemption, to, and including, Sept 30. 1872.

Very Respectfully Yours

J. W. Pollock
Director

Hon. F. E. Spinner
Treasurer U.S.
Washington D.C.

Oct. 24th. 2

Sir

The coin which you send to the Mint in your letter of the 22d inst, (Eagle, of New Orleans Coinage) is genuine, but far too light; so much so that its quality had to be proved by specific gravity. It is short 4½ grains, say 18 cents, without being much worn; certainly not that much.

We have no fund to draw on to make up such deficit and return a new piece of full value; nor is there any provision of law for it, as I think there should be within certain bounds, and as has been proposed in Congress, but not acted on. It is therefore worth $9.82 in gold, and the postage

would be 12 cents, so that we can=
=not return you more than $9.70
in gold, with silver changes. Please
inform me whether to do this, or to
return the cut pieces.

Yours Respectfully

Jno. Pollock
Director

Gen. Jerome Esq.
Collector of Customs
Detroit, Michigan

Octr 26 2

Dear Sir

The Mint has no use nor room for the collection you offer, or any part of it. I should suppose you would do best by engaging the services of a dealer in curiosities, or an auctioneer, especially in New York or Boston, or perhaps Cincinnati.

I will name a few persons who attend to such business: John W. Haseltine of this city 512 Walnut St., a very reliable gentleman; Edward Cogan, 408 State Street, Brooklyn; W. Elliott Woodward, Roxbury Mass.

Respy yours
Jas. Pollock
Director
pr H. C. Hickok
Director Clerk

Dr Q. H. Graser
Leavenworth
Kansas.

Oct. 26th 2

Sir

Your letter of the 24th inst, has been received.

On examining the Books of the Mint, we do not find any deposit in the name of John W. Frazer or Wm Sanderson, within the dates you name.

In compliance with your request, I have forwarded your letter to the U. S. Assay Office at New York for inquiry and answer.

Yours Respectfully

Jas Pollock

Director

per H. C. Hickok

Chf Clk

Wm Frazer Esq.

Staunton Va

Oct 26th 2

Sir

In compliance with your directions I herewith enclose check #11030 on New York for $9.90. balance of returns for Silver, sent to Mint to be exchanged for 5¢ Nickel pieces.

Yours Respectfully
James Pollock
Director
per Vogel

Geo Stickney Esq
Cash First Nat'l Bank
Grand Haven
Mich

Oct. 28th 2

Dear Sir

In reply to your note of the 27th inst. just received, I have to state that we could not receive or exchange silver medals for the Indians, without a special order to that effect from the Government. It would be a violation of the laws for the Mint to do otherwise.

Yours Truly

A. Loud
Director

Alfred H. Love Esq.
Indian Commissioner
now at Girard House
Philadelphia

Oct. 28th 2

Sir

In reply to your letter "S.G." of the 26th instant, making further inquiry as to the condition of the Bullion Fund of the Mint, and a supposed overcharge of $349.39; I herewith enclose a letter on the subject from Mr. Cowperthwaite, Book Keeper to the Treasurer of the Mint, explaining that that sum was the loss on the recoinage, by order of the Secretary of the Treasury, of $45.000 of abraded silver coin belonging to the Bullion Fund; which loss was made good recently, by a coin draft for the amount from the Treasurer of the U.S.

Very Respectfully Yours

Jos. Ellicott
Director

Hon. F. E. Spinner
Treasurer of the U.S.
Washington D.C.

Oct 29th 2

Sir:

Yours of the 26th instant inquiring, about base coins ordered, has been received.

In reply I have to inform you that they were shipped to your address, per Adams Express, on the 22nd Inst.

Yours Respectfully

Jas. Powell
Director

C. A. Allen Esq
Cashr. Union City Nat'l Bk
Union City
Mich

Pomra for Grant 75000!

Oct 29th 2

Sir:

Yours of the 28th inst', stating that, "on the 4th inst' you deposited $100.- for base coins, for the New Castle Co Nat Bank of Odessa, Delaware, and asking when said Bank might expect the coin"; has been received.

In reply I have to inform you that the coin was shipped, per Adams Express, on the 23rd Inst

Yours Respectfully
Jas Pollock
Director

B. F. Chatham Esq
Cash Philad. Nat. Bk
Philadelphia
Pa

Oct. 30th 2

Sir

In compliance with your request of the 28th inst, I herewith enclose $9.70 coin, specified in my letter of the 24th inst. (gold $9.50; silver .20¢)

Yours Respectfully

A. Pollard

Director

Geo. Jerome Esq.
Collector of Customs
Detroit, Mich

Oct 30th 2

Sir:

Yours of the 29th inst, inquiring when Small coin, in return for $500 U.S. legal tender Notes sent by you, may be expected; has been received.

In reply I have to inform you that we will be able to fill your order in about a weeks time from this date.

Yours Respectfully
Jas Polloch
Director

F. Haven Jr Esq
Asst Treas U. S.
Boston
Mass

Oct. 31st 2

Sir

Enclosed I forward statement of the amount and kind of each denomination of base coins redeemed at the Mint during the month of October 1872, under the Act of March 3d 1871; as also the amount previously redeemed, and the total amount redeemed.

Very Respectfully Yours

Jas. Pollock
Director

Hon. Geo. S. Boutwell
Secretary of the Treasury
Washington D.C.

Nov. 1st 2

Sir

At the close of business on the 31st ultimo, I made the usual monthly count and examination of the monies in the hands of the Treasurer of the Mint, with the following result, viz.

Gold	$170.486.41
Silver	52.451.49
Ordinary Acct	55.814.56
Cent Coinage Acct	189.973.64
San Francisco Br. Mint	
Denver " "	269.70
Charlotte " "	
Boise City " "	27.01
Carson City " "	145.56
Base coins redeemed	217.158.20
Total	$686.326.57

which corresponds with his Books

I also made examination into the general condition and operations of the Mint, and the institution was found to be in good working order, and its business conducted in a careful and satisfactory manner.

Very Respectfully Yours

Jas. Pollock

Director

Hon Geo. S. Boutwell

Secretary of the Treasury

Washington D.C.

Nov. 4th 2

Sir

Enclosed I forward statement of Deposits and Coinage at the Mint of the United States, Philadelphia, during the month of October 1872.

Very Respectfully Yours

J. R. Pollock
Director

Hon Geo. S. Boutwell
Secretary of the Treasury
Washington D. C.

Nov. 4th 2

Sir

Enclosed I forward, with my approval, the official Bond of Jacob B. Eckfeldt, as Assistant Assayer of the Mint, together with the accompanying affidavits, three in number.

Very Respectfully Yours

Jas. Pollock

Director

Hon E. C. Banfield
Solicitor of the Treasury
Washington D.C.

Nov. 6th 2

Sir

Enclosed I forward, "Statement of the United States Bullion Fund", and "Statement of Base Coinage &c" &c; for the month ending October 31st 1872.

Very Respectfully Yours

Jas Pollock
Director

Hon T. E. Spinner
Treasurer U. S.
Washington D. C.

Nov. 6th 2

Sir

The Melter & Refiner informs me that he needs copper for bronze cents, to be melted to-morrow.

You will therefore please purchase two (2) casks best Detroit Smelted Lake Copper, and have the same delivered to the Melter and Refiner tomorrow, if possible.

Yours Respy

Jas Pollock
Director

To the
Treasurer of the Mint
Philadelphia

Nov 7th 2

Sir:

Yours of the 6th inst; inquiring about base coins ordered for you by 1Bank of Republic on the 18th of October; has bun received, and in reply I would inform you that the coin will be forwarded to you in about one week from this date.

Yours Respectfully

Director

C. A. Luckenbach Esq
Pres'd First Nat'l Bank
Bethlehem
Pa

Nov. 7th 2

Sir

On the 4th inst, I forwarded to you, by the Adams Express, fifty-two (52) silver discs, in addition to the forty eight (48) sent you October 5th; making one hundred (100) in all. By an inadvertence, this number is four (4) less than your two orders of the 13th and 18th of September, ultimo, but as it can be made up in the next lot you require, I hope those sent may be sufficient for your present purposes. It is rather inconvenient to make a special melt for so small a number as four.

Your account now stands as follows, viz.

Bureau of Ordnance, Dr.

(over)

1872

Oct. 5th, To 48 discs, weighing 280.39 oz.

Nov. 4 " 52 " " 304.58 "

584.97

Add 4/100 wastage 2.34

587.31

at $1.40 per oz. ---------- $822.23

Turning 100 discs, @ .50¢ each. 50.00

Total $872.23

1872 Cr.

Sep. 14, By 10 silver discs } 206.10 oz

" 19 " 24 " " }

Oct. 17 " 16 " " } 93.85 "

299.95 "

at $1.40 per oz $419.93

Sep. 24. By coin (see my letter of Sep. 3d) 47.03 $466.96

Bal. due in silver coin $405.27

~~Please remit.~~

Very Respectfully Yours

Wm Wallace

Director

Rear Admiral

A. Ludlow Case

Chief, Bureau Ordnance

Navy Dept.

Washington D.C.

Nov 7 2

Dear Sir

Our Assayer desires me to make apology for the delay. The paper containing your address was accidentally burnt, and he had to wait to hear again from you. The assays were made ~~several~~ two weeks ago.

I am sorry to say that the two samples each contain only a trace of silver; A shows seven dollars per ton, and B four dollars. That kind of ore can be found all over the land.

There must be some wide-spread error in West Virginia, about the presence of precious metals. That region sends more specimens than any other, without any return so far.

The $10 sent is received.

Yours respy
Jas Pollock
Director.

Mr. F. Warner
with R. J. A. Boreman
Parkersburg W. Va.

Nov 8th 2

Sir:

Yours of the 5th inst, enclosing a fifty cent note in payment of five, five cent nickel pieces, is received.

In reply I have to inform you that we have not a single 5¢ piece of 1871, uncirculated, in the Mint or we would be happy to accommodate you.

I herewith return the 50 cent.

Yours Respectfully

A. Loud

Director

G. H. Baker Esq
Offic Clerk Court Common Pleas
Hamilton Co
Ohio

Nov. 8 2

Messrs. Mc Shisler & Co.
Mt. Murphy, Pocahontas Co.
W. Virginia
Gents

The Mint examines only ores of gold & silver. I therefore state that your specimen is a red hematite, an iron ore of very good quality.

If you wish an analysis, you can employ any private analyst, say Professor Genth 108 Arch St. or Profs. Booth & Garrett, Chant St., or Mr. J. B. Britton 339 Walnut St. Philad^{a}. — We will then hand over the sample as you may direct.

Respy yours
J. W. Pollock
Director

Nov. 12th 2

Sir

Referring to the letter (J.J.K) of Acting Secretary Richardson of the 26th of July last, enclosing certain ex=tracts from the Report of the Com=mission appointed to investigate the Wastage in the office of the Melter and Refiner of the Mint, and which "extracts contained certain recom=mendations" which were approved by the Acting Secretary, and which I was requested to carry into effect; and requiring me to transmit a copy of my instructions relative thereto to your Department; I now have the honor to enclose a copy of the Rules and Regulations founded upon and embracing all of the said recommendations; which have been

prepared with great care in accordance with the directions of the Acting Secretary.

To guard against any possible error, I called to my aid the Commission on Wastage, Prof. Rogers and Dr. Linderman; also Professors Booth and Dubois, (our Melter and Refiner, and Assayer) and the result is embodied in the enclosed Regulations. In their application, equal and exact justice will be done to the Government, the depositor and the Mint and Assay offices. They are founded upon years of experience, and their adaptation will greatly facilitate the business of the Mint and Assay offices, and produce perfect harmony of action.

I respectfully ask your

full and prompt approval of these Regulations, heretofore approved by Acting Secretary Richardson, in his letter of July 26th 1872.

Yours Very Respectfully

Jas. Pollock
Director

Hon Geo. S. Boutwell
Secretary of the Treasury
Washington D.C.

Nov 18th 2

Sir:

Yours of the 13th Instant, inquiring after base Coins to the value of $500,= ordered early in October, is received, and in reply I am happy to inform you that the coin was shipped to your address, per Adams Express, on the 14th inst.

Your Respectfully
Jas. Pollock
Director

H. D. Sidle Esq
Cash. First Nat'l Bank
of Minneapolis
Minn

Nov. 19th 2

Sir

In accordance with your verbal agreement this morning, based upon instructions from the Secy of the Treasury, dated the 15th inst, a copy of which is herewith furnished you, I have to request that you will make, within six weeks from this date, two coin scales for the U.S. Assistant Treasurer at Boston, Mass; one for weighing single pieces and one for weighing coin in bulk.

Let me know when they are finished, so that I may have them inspected, before being shipped.

Yours Respectfully

Jas. Pollock

Director

Mr Henry Troemner

No 710 Market St Philada.

Nov. 17th 2

Sir

I duly received your letter (R.S.) of the 15th instant, directing the purchase of two coin scales; one for weighing single pieces, and one for weighing coin in bulk; to be forwarded to the Assistant Treasurer of the U. S. at Boston, Mass.

I could not procure the scales ready made, but have today closed a verbal contract with Mr. Henry Troemner, of this city, to make them at the earliest practica= =ble time, which will be six weeks from this date. They will correspond in style and price with similar scales hereto= =fore furnished to the Government by Mr Troemner. This is the best arrange= =ment I could make; and I will

Bontwell
Dep. Sup.

Dear Sir

I will answer your inquiries with pleasure; but allow me first to say, that the present is not a good time to go to press with statements of coinage laws, and the relations of gold to silver. Those relations were never more unsettled, than ~~at~~ just now. The causes are potent; to wit, the rapidly increasing production of silver, the large amount of it to be withdrawn from German circulation, and the extensive use of small paper money in other countries of Europe. These and other considerations throw the currency question into a sort of chaos. Besides, there ~~are~~ now before Congress important projects of law affecting the relations of gold to silver in this country.

1. The legal contents of the gold dollar and silver dollar were not changed by the influx of gold in 1848 and onward. The gold dollar

contains 23.22 grains of fine gold; the silver dollar contains 371.25 grains of fine silver. A simple calculation gives you the relative value.

2. Answered in the above.

3. So long as the two were concurrent; that was the actual relative value; but it was not long; for in 185- the law reduced the weight of half dollars and lesser coin, to a less; sum than the changing relation called for, in order to keep them afloat, and not liable to exportation. Pre half dollars, since that time, contain 345.6 grains fine silver, a legal tender only for $5.

4. This is partly answered above. — Debtors (except on stipulated groundrents &c.) had a legal right to pay in either metal, and as the silver dollar grew the more valuable, gold became the real payment in specie. Things are now taking a turn the other way; but for commercial uses, a Mexican dollar is worth nearly or quite as much as fine silver, although only $\frac{9}{10}$ths fine.

5. All persons can get gold or silver coined. On gold, or whole silver dollars, they pay ½ per cent; on smaller silver they get 122½ cents per ounce $\frac{9}{10}$ths fine, payable in coins made into 125 cts. the oz.

6. Answered in No. 5.

I do not know what you refer to, in the words "revised calendar." Of course you know when Old Style gave place to New. I presume you mean the Fiscal Year, beginning July 1. For Mint Returns, this began in 1842. I do not know about other departments of the Treasury.

I send herewith the laws of the Mint in pamphlet.

Respectfully yours

Jas. Pollock

Mr. Montague R. Leverson

P. S. Foreign Mint Regulations can be found in the Report to Parliament on International Coinage, Queen's Stationery Office, London, 1868; also British Mint Reports (at the same office) for 1870 and 1871.

Nov 22nd 2

Sir:

Yours of the 9th instant, enclosing certificate of deposit #87531 for one hundred dollars in gold, and seventy-five cents currency for postage, has been received, and I enclose herewith one hundred gold dollars, coinage of 1872, in return for the same.

The Mint does not coin the small gold dollars any more.

The postage on the letter amounts to	42
Registering — — — — — —	15
Balance enclosed (currency)	18

Thus accounting for the currency Sent. 75¢

Yours Respectfully

J. Pollock

Director

D. L. Robinson Esq
626 Montgomery St
San Francisco
Cal

Nov. 22d 2

Sir

Your letter of the 20th instant has been duly received.

The edition of my Annual Report is limited, and has already been printed. It would not be practicable for me to have five hundred (500) extra copies printed for your use as requested, but early in December I will forward to you by Express, as many copies for distribution as can conveniently be spared.

Yours Respectfully

Lt. Pollard

Director

J. Smith Homans Esq.
New York

No 28 2

Gentlemen

Your letter of the 21st inst, asking if a "lot of base coin sent to the Mint on the 16th of October for redemption had been received", has just come to hand, and in reply I have to inform you that the coin arrived on the 22nd Instant.

Yours Respectfully

Director

Messrs Collett & Carr
Akron
Ohio

Nov 23 1

Sir

Your of the 21st inst, in relation to a suppose discrepancy in count of the coin sent to mint for redemption, has been received.

In reply I have to inform you that the bag containing the coin was received in a very bad condition, having a hole torn in it.

It is hardly possible for us to make a mistake as the counting is done on counting boards.

Enclosed find copy of statement of official count.

Your Respectfully

Director

Wm Johnson Esq
Cash. Granite Nat. Bank
Augusta Me

Nov. 23d 2

Sir

Assistant Secretary Richardson's letter "B.S" of the 28th of October, ult. with its Enclosed Circular No. 1, dated January 2. 1872, Communicating further instructions in regard to the monthly Count and Examination of the Monies, and accounts in the Office of the Assistant Treasurer U.S. in this City, was duly received.

On repairing to the Office of the Assistant Treasurer, in Company with the Surveyor of the Port and Naval Officer, it was found that the checks referred to, paid since the date of that Circular, number more than Sixty thousand (60,000) done up in small packages, closely Enveloped, and labeled, and to open and Examine these, with the strictness and care required by your instructions, and replace them in their proper order, would take weeks of time, Continuously devoted to this work [illegible]

and would very seriously interfere with my duties at the Mint.

This unexpected addition to the duties connected with the Monthly Count, has led me to a re-Examination of your original letter of instructions dated January 25. 1870, and of the 11th and 12th Sections of the Act of the 6th of August 1846, on which it is based.

As a result of the Examination, I am clearly of the opinion

1. That the Monthly Count and Examination, under the 12th Section of the Act referred to, of the Monies, books, and accounts of the Assistant Treasurer in this City, devolves Exclusively upon the Mint Officers and Surveyors

2. That neither under the letter of the Act or any Sound legal Construction thereof, is there any Warrant of law direct or indirect, for requiring the Director of the Mint, in his official Capacity, to make such Count and Examination, or to assist with the Mint Officers and Surveyors for that purpose.

The Monthly Counts of the Moneys in the Office of the "Treasurer of the Mint" at

punctually and carefully made by the Director, and the result promptly forwarded to the Department, in accordance with the requirements of the Act, and the instructions of the Secretary of the Treasury; but beyond this, the Act imposes no similar duty upon me. Indeed the Act is so clear and explicit in its terms, that I am persuaded a single perusal of the 12th Section will convince you of the correctness of my conclusions on this subject, and that I really have no legal right whatever, to enter the vaults, count the monies, examine the books and vouchers of the Assistant Treasurer, or meddle with them in any way.

That service having heretofore been rendered through inadvertence, and a mis-apprehension of the law, I respectfully ask a reconsideration of your instructions so far as I am concerned; assuring you, at the same time, that I have no desire to escape from or evade any official service or responsibility whatever, but will cheerfully and promptly perform any duty, legitimately belonging to my official position as Director of the Mint.

By referring to the 11th and 12th Sections of the Act of August 6. 1846 (a Copy of which is herewith Enclosed) You will see that the Count enjoined upon the Naval Officer and Surveyor is wholly separate and distinct from the service required of the Director of the Mint; and that the words "Where separate Offices" in the latter part of the 12th Section, mean that where the Office of Director of the Mint, or Superintendent of a Branch Mint is separate from the Office of "Treasurer of the Mint", or Treasurer of a Branch Mint, then the Director or Superintendent, as the Case may be, shall make the Count for the Treasurer of the Mint, or Branch Mint, respectively. When the Superintendent is also Treasurer, as at the Carson City, Denver, and Charlotte Branch Mints, this Act does not apply; but does apply to the Mint at Philadelphia, and Branch Mint at San Francisco, because the Treasurer in both these places is a seperate Officer from the Director or Superintendent; but the duty Enjoined upon the Director, has no reference whatever to the Monies in

5

the hands of the Assistant Treasurer U. S.

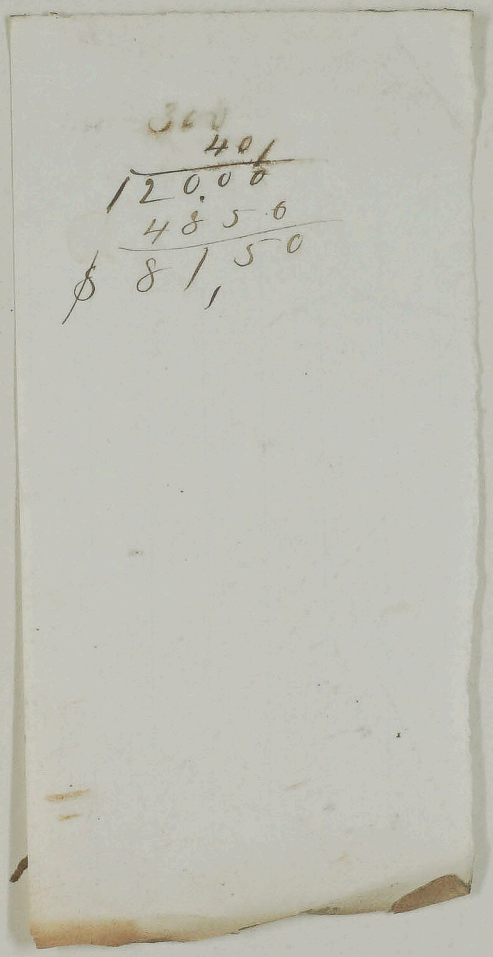
The Treasurer of this Mint, it is true, is Ex-officio Assistant Treasurer U. S, and the Office of the latter was formerly in the Mint building, but about six years ago was transferred by authority of law, to the Custom House, one mile from the Mint, and has no Connection with it. But even when the two were in the Mint building, it is difficult to understand how the Director became charged with the performance of this Extraneous duty, Except that the law was overlooked, and Custom and propinquity took its place.

The Question raised is respectfully referred to you for determination under the law.

Very respectfully yours

J. W. Pollock
Director

Hon. George S. Boutwell
Secretary of the Treasury
Washington D. C.



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